

# Solid Copy



**The CW Operators Club Newsletter**  
**June 2026 — Issue 197**

## President's Message

Help Wanted.

Another pilgrimage to Dayton is over. It was so great seeing old friends and meeting others I have worked on the air for the first time in person. My first Dayton trip was with my Dad, WA2UDV (SK) in 1980. I enjoy it now as much as ever. And, so many CWops members



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Jack Schuster, W1WEF, won BIG at the CWops Dinner. This cover photo AND a Begali Sculpture.

**CWops "CWT" 1 hour 'tests**  
**Every Wednesday** at 1300z and 1900z  
**Every Thursday** at 0300z and 0700z  
Exchange: name/number (members)  
name/SPC (non-members)  
**Avoid DX Pileups!**

**CWO Mini-club callsign web site:**  
<http://cwomc.org>

**CWops "neighborhood":** Look for CWops on  
1.818, 3.528, 7.028, 10.118, 14.028, 18.078,  
21.028, 24.908, 28.028, 50.098 "and up"

### **CWops Officers and Directors**

President: Don Greenbaum, [N1DG](#)  
Vice President: John Glover, [W2QL](#)  
Secretary: Jim Talens, [N3IT](#)  
Treasurer: Craig Thompson, [K9CT](#)  
Director: Bert Banlier, [F6HKA](#)  
Director: James Brooks, [9V1YC](#)  
Director: Raoul Coetzee, [ZS1C](#)  
Director: Riki Kline, [K7NJ](#)  
Director: Allan Mason, [VK2GR](#)  
Director: Theo Mastakas, [SV2BBK](#)  
Director: Ken Tanuma, [JN1THL](#)  
WebGeek: Dan Romanchik [KB6NU](#)  
Newsletter Editor: Dick Strassburger, [N9EEE](#)

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were there! The CWops booth was busy all weekend.

Do you know more people attended our great CWops Dayton dinner - kudos to Jim and his gang - this year than voted in the last CWops election? It's not that we are an inactive club. A check by Fabian, DJ5CW, of the online QSO database shows that in the last 12 months we have 300,654 QSOs, which were made with 2493 different members. That is a LOT of activity. We have 2500 active members but less than 160 voting members?

Our club is run by a handful of members. We have Officers (4), Directors (7), Ambassadors (15), CWA managers (2). We also have email, membership, CWT, CWO and web managers (6), activity and special purpose award managers (6), and a *Solid Copy* Editor. As needed others have stepped up to design our logo, man our hamfest show booths and participate in an executive discussion group (aforementioned managers, officers and retired officers of the club). Board decisions are made only after a full discussion by this group. Less than 1% of our members participate in running the club. Last year no one volunteered to run for President (we had to enlist someone). The CW Academy continues to have the most volunteers, 55, and of course the CWTs are the most visible sign of activity.

We have a ton of talented members in our club. I think a plurality is retired. Each fall we put out a call for nominations. When special projects come up or hamfest booths are announced, calls for staffing more likely than not come up empty handed. Maybe this should be a year round process and an active list - talent bank - would assist those running these projects and choosing officers who expressed an interest in the job. We have active lists of prospective members. Should we have a list of open positions for job seekers to peruse too?

A recent inquiry to the CWops reflector was seeking CW advisors who speak Dutch and Spanish. Another asked about people interested in volunteering for possible booth help at the Huntsville Hamfest. We have open Ambassadorships (9). There are 40 Giving Back operators on the schedule. Many time slots are still open.

If there is enough interest - please let me know - we will set up an online talent bank list. Marketing and event management, corporate leadership skills, and language dependent operating talents are all needed.

None of the jobs described above takes a lot of time but all are important to the efficient running of YOUR club. Please, be more than a number.

**73, Don, N1DG, President** (CWops #2)

## Editor's Notes:

### Kind of a Big Deal

I'll try not to overstate this, but Hamvention was kind of a Big Deal this year.

The CWops Dinner in Dayton was certainly a Big Deal. It was the largest gathering of CWops members ever—more than 160 people coming together to celebrate the oldest and arguably most enduring mode of communication in amateur radio. This year's new venue provided plenty of room for the real attraction: eyeball QSOs before and after dinner. In fact, conversations were so lively and persistent that the staff eventually had to flash the lights to encourage the last lingering hams to head for the exits. Of course, John will tell you it was the lengthy list of door prizes; Jim will say it was the scrumptious food from our favorite caterer; and Don will tell you it was the official CWops thong he received for being a good sport by assuming the President's role.

On Sunday, Bob Carter, WR7Q, led a forum promoting CWops and CW Academy. That was a Big Deal, too. He's not sure if CW Academy has ever taken the stage at Hamvention before, so maybe a first? You can see Bob's presentation [here](#). Bob reports that the session began with approximately 75 attendees, a turnout small enough to make any presenter a little uncomfortable, though it was a highly engaged audience. By the end, more than half of the 500 seats in the Forum Hall were filled—a remarkable showing for the final day of Hamvention and the final forum session on the schedule. Bob was delighted by the interest and honored that so many people came to hear about CWops and CW Academy. Until he realized he was standing between the attendees and the Grand Prize drawing immediately following his presentation. Nevertheless, that's a lot of people who heard Bob's message, and that's still a Big Deal.

I'll toot the horn for Marketing. A new logo made its debut at the CWops Dinner. Take a look at the CW Academy column on page 45 and let me know what you think. We're excited about this fresh identity and what it represents to the organization.

And then there was perhaps the biggest deal of all. During Hamvention, CW Academy was recognized by not one, but two highly respected organizations, each presenting its highest honors to the Academy's leadership. In place of the usual insights and statistics found in their monthly *Solid Copy* column, you'll read about Bob and Roland receiving **The Calcutta Key** from the RSGB and the **Award for Advancing the Art of CW** from CWops. These prestigious honors recognize years of dedication, innovation, and service to the art and practice of Morse code.

Now that is a BIG DEAL!

**73, Dick N9EEE**, (CWops #3113)

**Editor, Solid Copy**

SolidCopy@cwops.org



# Ops News and Notes

**Duncan (Mac) Fisken, G3WZD**

Welcome to another [Ops News and Notes](#) You'll notice we have a painfully thin postbag this month. This is your space to let our Members know about an interesting activation, an operating award, a shiny new key or perhaps a useful gizmo that makes your CW experience even better. Please send all submissions to me at [NewsAndNotes@cwops.org](mailto:NewsAndNotes@cwops.org) and remember, there's no need to wait for Dick's monthly call for articles, or my reminder. TU!

We regret to report the following Member has become a Silent Key.

A condolence card has been sent on behalf of CWops.



**Oli Pasquier,  
F5RDS, #3775**

**Mark, NM2A #3014** In the May issue of *Solid Copy*, you so kindly re-printed "CW Forever and Ever" by Jim Hatherley. Jim would be thrilled and honored. I knew Jim for many years while living in the Boston area. Jim was the longtime Section Traffic Manager for the Eastern Massachusetts area. If anyone could be credited for helping me with my CW skills and accuracy, it was Jim! He appointed me to be the Net Manager for the Eastern Massachusetts CW Traffic Net. He did that before I even knew I was ready for it! I did that job for him until I moved out of the area to pursue my aviation career.

The reason I write this is to make a correction. Jim's call sign was **WA1TBY**, not WA1BTY. It is a simple mistake to encounter obviously! Jim was a fine CW OP and I miss his mentorship and friendship. In fact, I still have a 2-meter rig that he gave me, not long before he became a silent key. I will always treasure the memories of passing CW traffic with him and many others on those twice-nightly nets. *ON&N Ed's Note: My apologies for 'busting' Jim's call!*



**Ken, KN2D #3566** It was my first Hamvention. I usually go to HamCation, but my son was getting married that weekend and thought it would be poor form to go to HamCation and miss his wedding. When I told three of my buddies from grade school (5th, 6th and 7th grade through high school graduation) that I was going to Hamvention, they joined me in Dayton! We hadn't been together in one place in 53 years.

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Also, KN2D and John K1AR #1741 have known each other since we were WN2MSF and WN2LQZ in 1970 - that's 56 years! We used to hang out on 15m SSB while in high school.

Also spotted at Hamvention, a porcupine!



**John, K1JD** Our area is prone to sudden straight-line microburst winds that can exceed 100 mph. Over the 14 years we've lived in Santa Fe, several of these events have caused damage to our property, including a portal roof and a broken tower leg. There were enough microburst events across New Mexico yesterday to warrant a mention on the local evening weather broadcast.

Yesterday afternoon was stormy and very windy. We heard an especially strong gust and a metallic screech — it turned out to be my 25-year-old Aluma T-50H separating at the rotor plate.

Replacing or repairing the tower, rotor, antenna, and cabling will take some time. My only remaining antenna for now is a 160 m inverted-L; with a tuner, it can be used on multiple bands.

The 3-el SteppIR and Yaesu 2800 rotor show no visual damage since the cables stopped them from hitting the ground. I'll test them to be sure and will replace the stretched cables. The SteppIR was snagged in a juniper tree, so I carefully cut it down rather than risk antenna damage.

Despite my initial reaction against repairing an old tower, local friend and aluminum sculpture artist/welding expert described how he would approach the repair. It strengthens the tower immensely. That the cost to repair is about 14% of a new Aluma T-50H is convincing as well.

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**Stan, K5GO/ZF9CW #272** My gratitude for sponsorship of the plaque for Multioperator Unlimited (Multi-Multi) in the 2025 ARRL DX CW Contest. We at ZF5T decided to operate in that category for the first time that year and were able to knock off the competition who had won it many years in a row.

The CWops group does wonderful work, and I am proud to be a lifetime member.

**Josep, EA6BF #3072** The photo was taken in September 2025 at the National Radio Communications Fair: IberRadio, considered the largest amateur radio fair in southern Europe, organized by URE (Spanish Amateur Radio Union).

In the background, you can see the wall of Ávila. The wall of Ávila is a complete Romanesque military enclosure that surrounds the old town of the Spanish city of Ávila, the capital of the province of the same name, in the autonomous community of Castilla and León. The wall, together with the old town and several churches located outside the walls, was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1985. The walls are the universal symbol and the most prominent monument that the city of Ávila houses. Its importance derives from being one of the best-preserved walled enclosures from the medieval period in Spain and throughout Europe.



**L-R: Nacho, EA4OR #2218; Ini, EA6EJ #3276; Eugenio, EA4KA #3650; Josep, EA6BF #3072; and Nando, EA4BB #2981**

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group of good friends there!! We spent a nice day and shared lunch with them and some other well-known Ops like Juan EA1X, here in the photo with me.



**L-R: Juan, EA1X #2562 and Josep, EA6BF #3072**



I was also pleased to have a visit from Noe, EA6/CO8NMN #2082.

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**Steve, W6QX #2870** I travel extensively for business, and I've made it a personal mission to work in ham radio activities whenever my schedule allows. I don't have time to operate, nor do I have a station to travel with, so I look for other ways. A recent trip to Vienna gave me just such an opportunity with a visit to 4U1A, the amateur radio station of the ARCDXC ([Amateur Radio Contest DX Club](#)) located at the Vienna International Centre, home of the United Nations Office in Vienna. I was graciously hosted by Andrei Fedorov, OE1ZZZ/RW3AH, known to the ham community as "Sparky."

Many will recognize Andrei as the holder of the Guinness World Record for the most amateur radio contacts in a single year, an astonishing 93,856 QSOs from 4U1A in 2018.

Sparky shared his passion for DXpeditioning and contesting, and it was a thrill to see the station up close. He is currently engaged in discussions with the ARRL toward having 4U1A recognized as a new, separate DXCC entity, a move that would be significant news for DXers worldwide. He is seeking support from the amateur radio community in this effort, so if you feel inclined to weigh in with the ARRL, now is the time. I sent an email to [dxccadmin@arrl.com](mailto:dxccadmin@arrl.com) to request this change to DXCC.



**L-R: Sparky OE1ZZZ/RW3AH and Steve W6QX**



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Later in the same trip I stopped in Munich and visited DL0DM, Alfred DL8FA was a gracious host even though I showed up an hour before they were open, the historic amateur radio station at the [Deutsches Museum](#), one of the world's great science and technology museums.

The station has been operating since 1938 and is a wonderful testament to the enduring appeal of our hobby.

***Barometer tower at Deutsches Museum***



***L-R: Steve W6QX and Alfred DL8FA at DL0DM***

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**Jim, N3JT #1** This is the 3-4-6 quad I built and installed on a 40-foot EZ-Way crank-up tower alongside my parents' single-story house in Philadelphia around 1970, when I was K3MNJ. 3 elements on 20m, 4 on 15m and 6 on 10m. (It was published as a feature article in 73 Magazine.)

The quad worked exceedingly well until a freak ice storm awoke me one winter morning at 3:30 a.m. with 60 mph winds. I peeked out my bedroom window in time to see the tower break loose from its hinge-ground mount (poor design!), the ice-covered antenna landing on our very unfriendly neighbor's roof like a huge spider. The tower was just leaning against his house. No damage to the roof or house. At 4 a.m. I went out into the weather (driven by fear), shimmied up the tower, removed all the bamboo and support structures from the neighbor's roof, and dragged the tower onto our side of the property line. By sun-up every piece of my antenna and the tower were on our property. The neighbor never knew what happened.

**Don, 7Q6M #1375** Congratulations to Urgent, 7Q6UJ (W4UJ) #3848 on his scholarship award!



Dear Urgent ,

On behalf of the Officers and Directors of the ARRL Foundation, it is my pleasure to congratulate you on being awarded the CWops Scholarship and the Carole J. Streeter, KB9JBR, Scholarship for the 2026-2027 academic year. The amount of your scholarship is \$2000.00.

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Congratulations to these two CWops members who were inducted into the Contest Hall of Fame, managed by World Wide Radio Operators Foundation, during Hamvention. From their website, "Induction into the CHOF is a true honor that demonstrates recognition by the contest community of what is often a lifetime of effort and contribution to the hobby and radio-sport."

**Doug Zweibel, KR2Q, #438**

Doug Zweibel, KR2Q, is one of the most influential and enduring figures in the history of amateur radio contesting, with a career spanning nearly six decades and a legacy built on both elite operating skill and transformative contributions to contest administration.



First licensed in 1966 and active in contesting since 1967, he became a fixture at top U.S. multi-multi superstations—including K2GL/N2AA, K5NA, and N2RM—while also excelling from home with low power, setting multiple CQWW QRP records.

Zwiebel is the longest-serving member of the CQWW Contest Committee, having joined in 1979, and he revolutionized the

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sport by writing the first mass computerized log-checking program in 1980, a breakthrough that modernized contest adjudication.

He later served as CQWW Contest Director (2016–2017) and was instrumental in establishing the Contesting Hall of Fame, arranging the inaugural induction in 1986. A 2026 Hall of Fame inductee himself, he also holds DXCC Honor Roll #1.

### **Paul Young, K1XM, #74**

Paul Young, K1XM, is a highly accomplished tester, radio engineer, and innovator whose five-decade career has left a deep imprint on modern station design and contest operating.

A 2026 Contesting Hall of Fame award winner, Young is best known for creating the YCCC SO2R Box and the Open Two Radio Switching Protocol (OTRSP)—both of which dramatically lowered the barrier to effective SO2R operation and became widely adopted across the contesting community. He has engineered advanced, computer-controlled antenna-switching solutions including the MOAS II which is in use in many contest stations.

He has contributed major hardware and software designs to the Yankee Clipper Contest Club for more than 35 years, and serves as the lead developer for the DXLog contest logging software.

A prolific DXpeditioner who often operates CQWW CW from outside the U.S., Young combines elite operating skill with a deep commitment to technical innovation and volunteer leadership, making him one of the most influential figures in contemporary contesting.

### **Alan, N2KW #421** The DXCC country that never was...

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, let us recall a story from the Bicentennial. Time flies, it sure doesn't feel like 50 years since 1976, but simple arithmetic says it is!

"Doc" Levitt, W2RAK/WB2NDI applied to the FCC for a Special Event Station on Liberty Island.

The application was granted, and WL2USA operated for two weeks, right at the base of the Statue of Liberty. QSL was via LIMARC.

Although this was only intended to celebrate the Bicentennial, someone pointed out, during the operation, that it met all the criteria for inclusion on the DXCC list. Liberty Island is owned by the Department of the Interior, just like Desecheo, Navassa, and others. "Seperate Administration" got 4U1UN on the list, and there is no shortage of "seperate administration" entities. John Ackley mused that "Water Island" in the harbor at Charlotte Amalie met that criteria too. In fact, there is a Memorial at the site of the Normandy Invasion (WW2) that is deeded to the United States in perpetuity, and that meets the criteria as well.

Someone at ARRL HQ realized what a can of worms this "seperate administration" could open up, the loophole had to be closed, and it was. Extraterritorial entities and seperate administration are no longer valid reasons for inclusion on the DXCC list.

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"What about contacts made with these stations BEFORE the rules changed? Sorry Charlie!

The League has a policy that says an entity cannot be considered for addition to the DXCC list until the first QSL is submitted for consideration. LIMARC did not mail the cards until after the rule change, some 9 months later. If I had known this, I would have gotten a postcard of the Statue of Liberty, and have "Doc" fill out a "one off" QSL.

Liberty Island is the DXCC entity that never was. I am unaware of any operation from Water Island.

By the way, Trans-Denistr has its own currency, its own postage, an army, a president, and and elected representatives. Ask any resident of Tirasopol and they will tell you they live in Trans-Denister, but Moldova insists it's just a neighborhood

Eritrea and South Sudan crept onto the list this way, but Walvis Bay and Kwa-Zulu (Kwa-Kwa) didn't make it.

RASD made the cut, but Nagorno-Karabakh is an orphan. Tskhinval is the Capital of the Republic of South Ossetia, but is only recognized by a handful of other "entities." DXCC should thank Joseph Stalin!

If "separation by foreign land" is a criteria, there should be TWO entities for Timor L'Este, and TWO entities for "Palestine"

HB9RS (father of 4U1UN) remarked that 4U1ITU was a pirate, and that 4U1VIC had a legitimate claim to the 4U prefix.

There must be a dozen entities that are not universally recognized (e.g. Abkhazia, North Cyprus, etc...) but the people that live there think otherwise.

"North Ossetia" comes to mind, or Nakhichavian

## **CW Open – September 5, 2026**

**The session times will be as follows:**

**Session 1: 00:00 UTC, Sept 5**

**Session 2: 12:00 UTC, Sept 5**

**Session 3: 20:00 UTC, Sept 5**

[Event web page](#)



# How We Were

[Ian Capon](#), GWØKRL

7Q6M, Don Jones, CWops #1375



*Don, D68GA - 1980*



*Don, D68GA - 1983*



*Gerry, W1VE; Don, 7Q6M; Peter, WA6LBY*

So now it's your turn, do you have a picture to share accompanied by a brief paragraph description, of your early days in radio, experimenting, exploring or just "being a ham". Please send it to [Ian Capon](#).

**73, Ian GWØKRL** (CWops #2896)



# CWops Dinner in Dayton

**Photo contributors: Chris, Butch, KAØWWT, KF7WX, and Dick, N9EEE**

Over 160+ CWops members and guests attended this year's CWops Dinner in Dayton held annually in conjunction with Hamvention in Xenia, Ohio. Held at a new venue, The Galleria Event and Conference Center, there was ample opportunity before, during, and after the dinner and program for renewing friendships and making new ones. The spaciousness, ambiance, food, location and lengthy list of door prizes set the scene for a fantastic evening for all-things-CW.

What follows is a collection of candid photographs captured by three members throughout the evening. While we unfortunately lacked a dedicated note-taker to identify everyone who appeared before the cameras, many attendees can be recognized by their name badges. We hope these images convey the energy, camaraderie, and enthusiasm that made the event so special and that they inspire you to join us next year.



*Galleria*



*Award for Advancing the Art of CW*

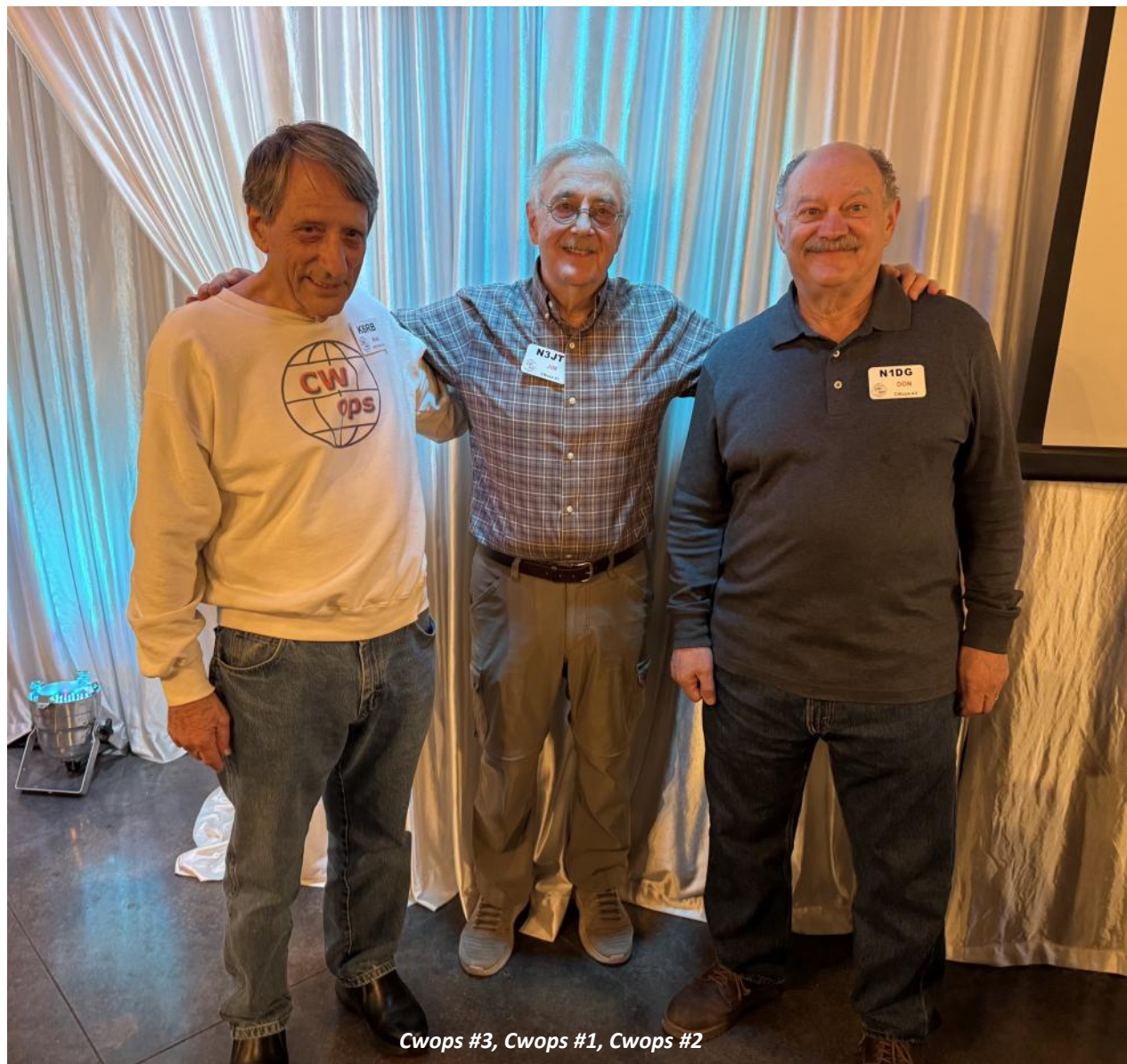


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Cwops #3, Cwops #1, Cwops #2



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On to the door prizes...



# CWops Dinner in Dayton

## Door Prize Winners

| Donor          | Prize                    | Winner Callsign Name                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Heil           | Ham Radio Handbook       | W2QL John Glover                              |
| Heil           | Ham Radio Handbook       | K4QS Chuck Stover                             |
| CWops          | Coffee Mug               | KV8Q Tom Hain                                 |
| CWops          | Coffee Mug               | WU8T Tom Sommers                              |
| CWops          | Coffee Mug               | K6RB Rob Brownstein                           |
| CWops          | Coffee Mug               | KF7WX Chris Herter                            |
| KR3E           | CW book                  | K1MT David Talmanson                          |
| KR3E           | CW book                  | K9GY Eric Hall                                |
|                | 1946 Handbook            | K4PI Mike Greenway                            |
|                | 1947 Handbook            | KD1MD Kirk Dyer                               |
|                | 1948 Handbook            | W1HRB Howard Belkin                           |
| Mastrant       | Gift Certificate \$25    | KA0WWT Butch Tuner                            |
| Mastrant       | Gift Certificate \$25    | N2MA Al Houston                               |
| Mastrant       | Gift Certificate \$25    | N8DNA Mike Goltz                              |
| Mastrant       | Gift Certificate \$25    | N8EA Joe Holstein                             |
| K9ID           | Custom T-shirt           | K9WO Steve Dubberstein                        |
| CWops          | Solid Copy (Cover Photo) | WA1NLG Norm Cantin (re-gifted to Jack, W1WEF) |
| K0ZR           | Filter Book              | N1CC Mike Padron                              |
| KC8J           | Paddle Cover             | K4EAK Skip Kazmarek                           |
| K1VR           | Antenna Zoning Book      | NA8V Greg Chapoton                            |
| RadioRoamers   | T-shirt                  | WB2UZE Howard Bernstein                       |
| RadioRoamers   | Coffee Mug               | N6NT Burce Sawyer                             |
| ARRL           | Gift Certificate \$50    | NR4P Steve Shapiro                            |
| ARRL           | Gift Certificate \$50    | K9VEG Jeff Porter                             |
| ARRL           | Gift Certificate \$50    | N4LSJ Tom Glascock                            |
| Daily DX       | 1-yr Subscription        | W0JMP David Dantzler                          |
| Daily DX       | 1-yr Subscription        | W9NXM Joel Nelson                             |
| Micheal Byars  | Gift Certificate         | NJ3K Bruce Manning                            |
| N8AR           | Mortty                   | KE8EON James Curley                           |
| N8AR           | Mortty                   | KB8GAE Richard Slutz                          |
| WA4MCM         | Gift Certificate \$100   | KM4FO Dwight Orten                            |
| DX Engineering | Gift Certificate \$100   | K4GM George Marzloff                          |
| DX Engineering | Gift Certificate \$100   | K8VAN Bob Leach                               |
| DX Engineering | Gift Certificate \$100   | K0VBU Bill Henderson                          |
| DX Engineering | Gift Certificate \$100   | WU8T Tom Sommers                              |
| KF7WX          | Rocks                    | WE4AUB John Hathcock                          |

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|                       |                          |                       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| KF7WX                 | Rocks                    | KB0QEP Jan Uzlik      |
| KF7WX                 | Spicy Chips              | K3GG Ben Pak          |
| Green Heron           | Gift Certificate \$100   | W2RQ Bill Keller      |
| Green Heron           | Gift Certificate \$100   | VE3MGY Brian Campbell |
| CWops Member          | Gift Certificate \$100   | KB0LNA Pamela Turner  |
| CWops Member          | Gift Certificate \$100   | AC4NK Ryan Banks      |
| CWops Member          | Gift Certificate \$100   | WA4PGM Kyle Chavis    |
| VHQ Hexbeam           | Gift Certificate \$100   | NM5M Eric Silverthorn |
| VHQ Hexbeam           | Gift Certificate \$100   | W2APF Thaire Bryant   |
| VHQ Hexbeam           | Gift Certificate \$250   | AA3R Fred Tollin      |
| Expert Amps           | Gift Certificate \$200   | WS7L Carl Clawson     |
| N1DG/Island Amplifier | Gift Certificate \$500   | K9EZ Ken Winrich      |
| Elecraft              | AX3                      | AF1E Joe Spears       |
| Flex                  | Gift Certificate \$250   | W7JET BB Betz         |
| Flex                  | Gift Certificate \$250   | HP1XT Tom Morton      |
| Heil                  | Headset                  | KN2D Ken Countess     |
| W1WEF                 | Vintage Miniature J38    | WA1VQY Jeff Lynch     |
|                       | Intellitron Practice Key | K3WJX Charles Gantz   |
| KI5FCV                | Gift Certificate         | K0OO Patrick Benson   |
| KI5FCV                | Paddle                   | KJ5CMP Isaiah Russell |
| GM0EUI                | Miniature Straight Key   | 7Q6M Don Jones        |
| UR5CDX                | Paddle                   | K3MM Ty Stewart       |
| HRO                   | Vibroplex Cube           | N8KDC Ken Whitcomb    |
| N3ZN                  | Paddle                   | K1SEI Tage Carlson    |
| K4QU                  | Paddle                   | N7TY Bruce Thompson   |
| CWops Member          | Begali Sculpture         | W1WEF Jack Schuster   |
| Begali                | Begali Traveler          | W7EVE Eve Glantz      |

Paddle Prize Winners shown on next page.





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**Ty Stewart, K3MM, holding his UR5CDX.**



**Bruce Thompson, N7TY, holding his March Magnetic.**



**Ken Whitcomb, N8KDC, holding his Vibroplex Cube.**



**Bruna Begali presenting a Begali Traveler to Eve Glantz, W7EVE**



**Bruna Begali alongside Jack Schuster, W1WEF holding his Begali Sculpture.**

# WRTC 2026

## What Does It Take to Win?

For testers, the World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) represents the pinnacle of competitive amateur radio. Often described as the "Olympics of Radiosport," WRTC brings together the world's top operators and places them on a level playing field.

Every team competes with essentially identical stations, antennas, and power levels, ensuring that success depends on a combination of strategic decision-making, propagation expertise, teamwork, accuracy, and endurance. The strongest contenders will be those who can anticipate band openings, maintain high QSO rates while minimizing errors, adapt quickly to changing conditions, and work seamlessly as a two-operator team throughout the 24-hour event. At this level, every competitor is world-class; the champions are typically the team that makes the fewest mistakes, executes the best strategy, and sustains peak performance from the first contact to the last.

That raises an intriguing question: how does a team prepare for a championship win?

The majority of the teams entered in the past few WRTCs have featured CWops members. So I sought them out and asked them to divulge as much as they were willing to share about their preparation planning. Here are a few of their replies.

**AA3B #242 and W2GD #204:** We will be NA #1 Team 2 for WRTC 2026. This our third WRTC as teammates. Our approach to preparing for WRTC 2026 is like what we did for WRTC's 2018 and 2022 and includes:

- Reviewing our logs and the logs of the competitors to understand band selections, mode choices, rates, and multiplier capture performance
- Studying reverse beacon network data and Voice of America Coverage Analysis predictions to understand propagation from the WRTC location
- Developing operating plans that include hourly band selections, geographic focus, and performance metrics
- Operating together in major contests to test our skills and station setup. For example, we operated (and won) the 2025 IARU Radiosport contest in the Multi-operator, Two Transmitter, Low Power category using callsign P44W. We will also operate Field Day 2026 in the 2E category. 73, Bud AA3B

**AC0W #1564:** For the NA10 team we did a few things to prepare. Once we had our equipment plan completed, we scheduled 3 contests to operate M/2 together. The primary reason was to go through set up and tear down together and then to make sure everything worked as it should. Finally, we worked to become familiar with working a contest together and develop methods to communicate with each other during the contest.

Then with the WRTC rules not allowing using Super Check Partial and Call History files I turned these features off for any contests I participated in leading up to WRTC. This was to practice not having those tools available and force me to do a better job of copying and asking for fills.

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**VE5MX and VE3EJ:** The preparation for WRTC 2026 began at the closing ceremonies of WRTC 2022 in Italy. When it was announced that the next WRTC would be held in England, I looked across the table at my partner John, VE3EJ, and said “Do you have another in you?” His reply was yes, he did, if I did the qualifying! That conversation set in motion the next two years of qualifying in the NA 11 qualifying area. During that time, John and I operated a couple of contests together, both for qualifying points and to stay familiar with the teamwork it takes to be successful at WRTC.

John expanded on what it takes to be successful.

“To be successful you have to be able to work well together. Once the contest starts there isn't time to discuss strategy or really even something as simple as band changes. So we make a point of operating together as much as possible, during the weekly calls we will discuss the latest contest we both operated, strategies we used, unusual band openings, etc. Over time this builds up our familiarity and trust between us. And I can have the confidence that when I have a great run going on 15m that I don't have to worry about whether or not John has remembered to check 10m because experience tells me that he will have it covered. That's probably the easiest way I can explain it. In a nutshell, I don't need to worry about what he's doing and vice versa and that relationship needs practice and maintenance like any team.”

Once I successfully qualified, planning started immediately, first up, equipment decisions were made and finalized. Then we started to look at opportunities to operate contests together as a team. Since WRTC 2022, John and I have stayed in regular contact, emails and usually a weekly telephone conversation. Not always discussing WRTC specifically, but maybe a certain aspect of travel planning or discussions around expected propagation or such. To that end, in early 2025, I suggested we travel to England sometime through the year to scope out the lay of the land and get a feel for how things would happen when we made the trip to WRTC. We also thought it would be a great opportunity to make a contest operation part of the trip.

In April of last year, John reached out to friends in the M6T and enquired about us joining them for CQWW CW. A positive response from them set into motion another round of planning for November. John and I traveled to London and spent the better part of the week in the country, which included a visit with Mark, M0DXR, and assisting in preparing M6T for the weekend. We both had more than enough operating time and camaraderie and returned from that trip with a fresh perspective and a narrowed focus on planning.

As the calendar flipped over to 2026, the emails and conversations picked up pace. The equipment list from WRTC 2022 was refreshed and updated with improvements and refinements implemented from what we learned in Italy.

Finally, we agreed that CQ WPX CW weekend would be our dry run for WRTC 2026. The equipment from my station was shipped to VE3EJ and over the course of the week prior to the contest John rearranged his station to accommodate the WRTC setup in another room. I arrived on the Thursday before the contest and we completed setup that night. Friday, we worked through some issues and were comfortable enough to pronounce the stations ready to go with a few hours to

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spare. We entered the M2 category with low power with the goal to ferret out any problems with the setup. Making sure to try all kinds of different band combinations searching for interstation interference or other problems. This included swapping out the spare equipment we plan to take with us to ensure everything is working properly. Other than one small, solvable, radio issue everything came through the test operation with flying colors! From here the equipment will be packed away, ready for the trip to England.



With that, preparations are essentially complete and we look forward to getting on with the real thing in July!

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WRTC 2026 takes place in England starting on July 11 at 1200 UTC and concluding on July 12 at 1159 UTC.. The usual HF contest bands are in play. Modes are CW and SSB. Maximum CW speed is 50 wpm. WRTC exchange is signal report plus ITU zone number.

You can read more about this year's event at [wrtc2026.org](http://wrtc2026.org)

"Best wishes and favorable propagation" to all the CWops members who are participating in this year's event!





# Porthcurno Cable Station - Callsign PK

[Duncan Fiske](#), G3WZD (CWops #1979)

Until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, sending messages was largely limited to letters, semaphore, carrier pigeon and other slow and sometimes unreliable means; rapid and accurate communications over long distances was impossible (the first successful telephone call was not made until 1876). Nestled at the end of a steep-sided and picturesque valley on the rugged south coast of Cornwall lies Porthcurno Beach, the unlikely setting for what was to become a global communications revolution.

With a birthday approaching, my partner Annie, a keen supporter of my long-standing interest in amateur radio, suggested a couple of days away, starting with a visit to the Museum of Global Communications in Porthcurno, followed by a stay in St Ives, a most beautiful example of a small Cornish fishing town. Annie figured that while I was engrossed in the museum, she would enjoy a walk along the Southwest coast path.



Happily, the notoriously fickle Cornish weather was kind, and we arrived at Porthcurno in bright sunshine. I had already called ahead to explain I would be visiting and seeking some interesting historical facts for the CWops *Solid Copy* newsletter. I was advised to just ask for Mary who, I was informed, is a volunteer with over 21 years-experience at the museum and a 'font of knowledge'.

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Before viewing the museum's exhibits, Mary invited us to join her twice-daily talk on the museum's historical importance. Mary more than lived up to her reputation as her knowledge of Porthcurno's role in the communications revolution was truly encyclopaedic!

Following Danish Physicist Hans Christian Ørsted's discovery of electromagnetism in 1820, there was, for the first time a reliable, repeatable and practical way to detect electricity; fundamental to the telegraph.



**Cooke and Wheatstone's 5-Needle Telegraph**



**Mary Hocking with Duncan G3WZD #1979 (holding a sample of an early submarine cable)**

Rapid developments followed, such as the Cooke & Wheatstone five-needle telegraph which enabled messages to be read without having to use code. Samuel Morse was also working on the problem of long-distance communication at the same time. Morse was obsessed with the problem having been working away at the time of his wife's death; since the message took so long to reach him that he missed her funeral!

Set to become the largest telegraph station in the world, Porthcurno's role in the communications revolution began in 1870 when it was chosen as the site for the first major undersea cable. Interestingly, although the port of Falmouth was a more convenient as a geographical location, the cable's sponsor, Scottish entrepreneur John Pender, realised that Falmouth was a relatively shallow and very busy harbour, with the

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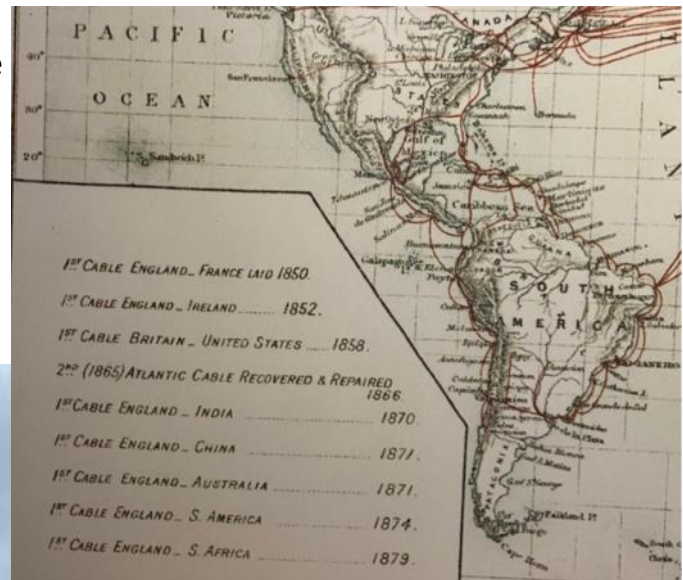
consequent risk of cable damage from ship's anchors. Porthcurno, on the other hand, is a small deep-water bay making anchoring nearly impossible for ships. Another advantage over Falmouth was a line of telegraph poles between Porthcurno and Penzance.

Following the early, though short-lived, success of the first trans-Atlantic cable laid by the Atlantic Telegraph Company, founded by a group of wealthy American businessmen led by Cyrus Field, Pender acquired the company. Realising how rapid communications would be highly advantageous to trade, Pender was particularly keen to connect England with India, already a hugely important source of trade goods. Advances in cable construction using materials such as *gutta percha*, a rubbery material made from the sap of the Malayan percha tree, cables resistant to salt water and attack by marine organisms could now be deployed.

The cable was laid from Porthcurno via Gibraltar and Malta to Bombay (Mumbai) and on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1870, the first connection was made. Messages that previously would have taken six weeks to travel between London and Bombay now took just nine minutes. Within a few years of landing that cable to India, around 40,000 messages were flowing; Porthcurno was taking its place at the centre of global communication.



**Porthcurno; a global network hub**



### ***Rapid network expansion in second half of 19th Century***

Pender amalgamated the several cable companies operating between Britain and India into the Eastern Telegraph Company (ETC). Direct communication with Australia and China soon followed. By 1874 there were over 650,000 miles of telegraph wire, 30,000 miles of under-sea cables and over 20,000 towns and cities were linked. By 1880 there were almost 100,000 miles of undersea cable. With his effective control of both operation and manufacture of most of the longest telegraph cables in the world, Pender became known as The Octopus!

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Porthcurno continued to grow in importance by also developing into a world-renowned training hub for telegraph operators. Thousands of young men from around the world came to Porthcurno, or PK as it became known after its callsign, to undergo operational and technical training. Many were accompanied by their families. Following completion of their training, ranging from nine to eighteen months, most were posted to overseas cable stations.



***The Porthcurno cable station and training centre in the 1930s***

During the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Marconi succeeded in signalling a Morse code message from Poldhu in Cornwall to Newfoundland, almost 2,000 miles distant. With the popularity of wireless growing rapidly, the British General Post Office (GPO) established a network of shortwave radio stations with service to Australia, South Africa and India.

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**Examples of early wireless equipment, including a Coherer Receiver and Spark Transmitter**



**Sending the cable cost roughly \$1.56 at 1934 exchange rates**

In 1903, Ambrose Fleming, who was working with Marconi, gave a lecture on wireless at the Royal Institution in London. A highlight was to be a demonstration of the reception of wireless signals from Poldhu in far-off Cornwall. Imagine the embarrassment of the demonstrator when the receiver began printing out rude messages, including a limerick which started: *"There was a young fellow of Italy, who diddled the public quite prettily...."* Neville Maskelyne, a wireless enthusiast hired by ETC to oversee the equipment and wireless training for some telegraph workers, had transmitted jamming signals from the roof of his father's theatre, about a mile away. He did this to demonstrate that Marconi's system offered neither privacy nor protection from interference.

Securing the future of the cable network was crucial and in 1927 the British government merged the Marconi and GPO wireless telegraphs with the Eastern Telegraph Companies businesses into Imperial and International Communications Ltd, later to become the well-known global communications operator, Cable & Wireless.

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***Mock-up of the Malta cable station***

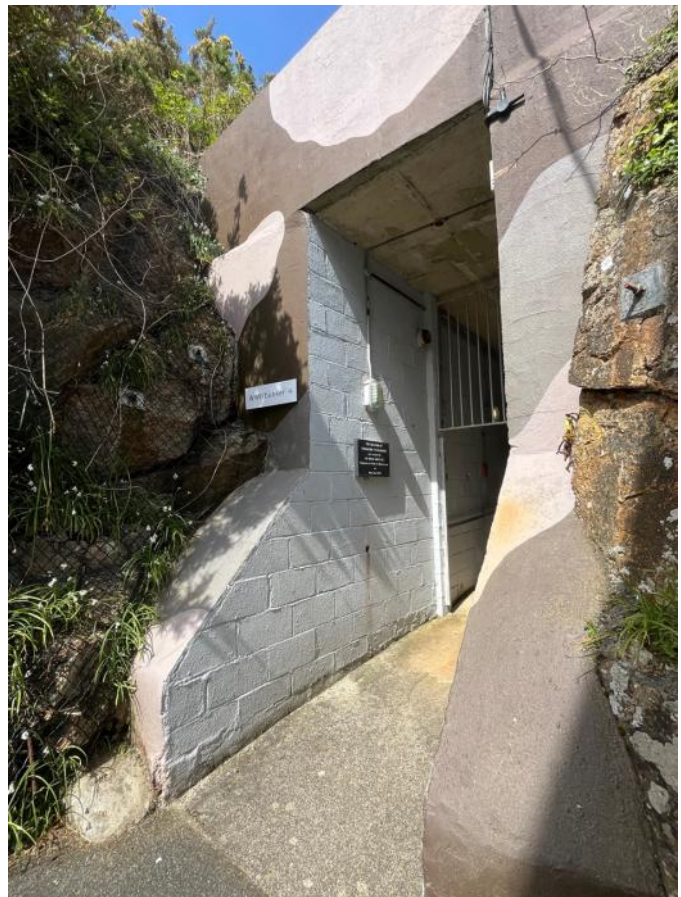
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During the Second World War Portcurno's telegraph workers were again encouraged to stay in post and not join up to fight. Their jobs became reserved occupations due to the importance of protecting Britain's communications network. Porthcurno was a vital part of this network, and the most important station in the 355,000-mile Cable & Wireless network.

Work to protect Porthcurno from attack was commenced immediately upon the declaration of hostilities; a network of tunnels was constructed under the station to provide shelter and house important equipment, involving the removal of some 15,000 tons of rock.



**Entrance to bunker and tunnels**

Traffic increased exponentially; government traffic alone increased from 12 million words in 1938 to 266 million words in 1944.

Contrary to popular belief, only a tiny fraction of international communications is carried via satellite links. Almost 97% of all international email, internet and telephone traffic is still carried over undersea fibre optic cables



**Examples of early and current submarine cables**

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***Porthcurno's display of radio equipment includes some well-known models like the AR88D, HRO, Hallicrafters & Racal receivers***

Porthcurno's importance continues to this day; Cornwall remains the hub of British communications with fourteen fibre optic cables coming ashore on Cornish beaches. Four of these cables are landed at Porthcurno. Porthcurno's Museum of Global Communications is also the repository of the Cable & Wireless Ltd corporate archive, the Alcatel corporate archive, along with its own collection of objects that have been recognised for their national and international significance. Further information on the museum and Porthcurno's role in global communications can be found [here](#).

The museum and the story of PK is fascinating; Annie was so engrossed that she never did get her walk on the coast path!

Additional source: "Changing Places; Porthcurno and the roots of modern communication"

ISBN: 978-1-905419-33-3



# QRV: CWops DX

**Bill Salyers, AJ8B**

This month, our guest is Ann Finkelsen, WA1S, also known as CWops #196. Here is a bit about our guest from her QRZ.com webpage:

I was originally licensed in Rhode Island in 1979 (Extra since 1980). I enjoy DXing, contesting, CW and DXpeditions.

DXCC #1 Honor Roll - Mixed 340 (350 total) confirmed countries.

DXCC # 1 Honor Roll - SSB 340 (349 total).

DXCC #1 Honor Roll - CW Honor Roll 338 (347 total).



I have been a volunteer sorter for the W1 incoming bureau since the early 90's and although I currently live in Florida, I am able to continue this volunteer work from here.

I am the Continuous Membership Chairman for Young Ladies' Radio League (YLRL) which is a YL organization that was established in 1939. We have YL members from all over the world. Visit our Website at <https://ylrl.net/> for more information.

I have a BS degree in Computer Engineering and am a retired Electronics Engineer. My other hobbies include Scuba Diving (Rescue Diver), fishing, scalloping, photography, and classic cars.

## **You are CWops member #196. How did you get involved with CWops?**

That was a long time ago 🤔 I want to say it was N1DG, Don Greenbaum, but not 100 percent sure.

I have always loved CW. When I was in New England, I was an active member of Yankee Clipper Contest Club (YCCC). When residing in Georgia, I was a member of the Georgia Contest Group. And now that I am retired in Florida, I am active with the Florida Contest Group (FCG).

## **Did CWops have a major impact on your love of CW?**

Not really. I have always loved CW and have been licensed since 1979.

## **Did the CWTs help you stay sharp for activations or contests?**

Contests. I enjoy CW contesting and recently have operated mostly as a Single Op, Low Power. I have operated from several multi-op stations over the years. K1NG, K1RX, WW4LL and NQ4I. Several DXpeditions operating in CQWW CW, J39A, J3A, V63X, VP9I and TO4X.

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### How has CW helped or enhanced your desire to BE DX instead of just working DX?

I love to run, run, run CW pileups and have been on many DXpeditions operating primarily CW. The DXpeditions I have been on are listed on my QRZ page.

### What would you tell a ham who is considering learning CW?

Practice, practice, practice. A little every day is better than getting frustrated and burning yourself out.

### Do you have any other comments about CW or CWops?

CW Forever

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SC

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## New Members

[Trung Nguyen](#), W6TN

With great pleasure we welcome the following new members to CWops:

| <u>CWops</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>CWops</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>CWops</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>Name</u> |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 3937         | W2GR*       | Mike        | 3940         | W4IPC       | Bob         | 3943         | DJ7EC*      | Hauke       |
| 3938         | DL1BUG      | Red         | 3941         | M5LGM       | Tom         |              |             |             |
| 3939         | KK9T*       | Tim         | 3942         | ON5AI*      | Erik        |              |             |             |

\* Lifetime member

As of June 7, 2026:

**Need Sponsors:** SA4ZAB, K2DP

**Invitations Extended:** WC9C

For more details about nominees and up-to-date status, check the [“Members only”](#) page on the website. For information about joining CWops, check the [“Membership”](#) page on the website.

Notes: If you have updated your personal info, e.g., new QTH, new callsign, or additional callsign, please send it to [membership@cwops.org](mailto:membership@cwops.org) so I can add it to the roster. Vice versa, if your callsign becomes inactive I can remove it, too. Then the roster will be accurate and current for our usage.

**73, Trung W6TN** (CWops #1707)

Membership Manager

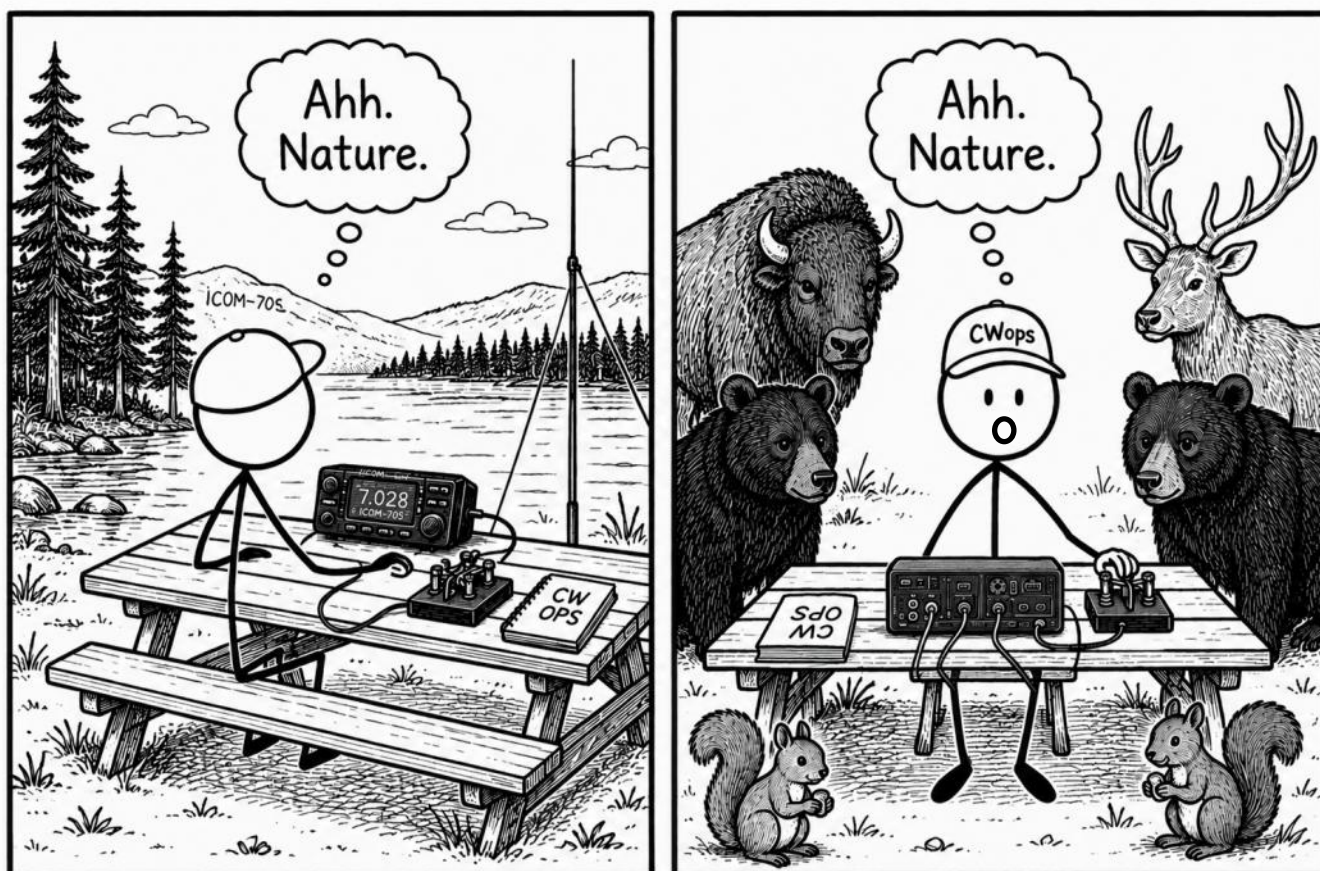




Did your **CALL SIGN** change recently?  
Did you move to a **NEW ADDRESS** or change your **NAME** ?  
Congratulations!  
Help us keep our **DATABASE UP-TO-DATE**  
Click [HERE](#) to update your contact information.

SC

## Hamming It Up



Dick, N9EEE

# Giving Back Update

[Rob Brownstein](#), **K6RB** (CWops #3)

CWops' Giving Back (GB) program is meant to provide on-air QSO experience and practice for anyone who wants it. It was initially intended as a way for our CW Academy students to get some on-air experience. We all know that when there is activity on the bands, these days, it's usually a DXpedition pileup or a contest. Today's CW aspirants have had little chance to work others who are skilled at CW, operate at moderate speed, and are committed to helping. That's the mission of Giving Back. The GB volunteers get on the air at approximately 7 pm local time and seek out CQers, or call CQ, and engage in routine QSOs including some conversational tidbits. The operators' schedule appears on the next page.

Here are the May 2026 results (GB hosts are shown in **bold**):

|               |                                                      |                                         |                                       |                                            |                                         |                                           |                                      |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>GW2CWO</b> | PD1RDY                                               | IK1VEK                                  | DL1YBW                                | DK5FN                                      | HB9AJP                                  | I1PJK                                     | OU3AW                                |
| <b>JG1UQD</b> | JK1WCW                                               | J11CSQ                                  | JN3CEL                                | JF1LXO                                     | JL2SQK                                  | JH0NFJ                                    | JA7PRZ                               |
| <b>JJ1FXF</b> | JM1MKH<br>JS2TGK(2)                                  | JH0NFJ<br>JQ3GAJ(2)                     | JA4IJ<br>BH5ELC                       | JL2SQK<br>AL7JX                            | 7K1UGA<br>JJ0SFV                        | JJ0WDS<br>JR2MCN                          | JS1CII<br>JE2WDJ                     |
| <b>JK1QYL</b> | JS2TGK(12)<br>JO4IPQ<br>JA4EVH<br>JQ3GAJ             | JA3EBL<br>JR6SBI<br>JN1FAO(2)<br>JF1JDG | JE3DXP<br>JM8QGN<br>JH5SIK/3<br>UA0DF | JL2SQK<br>HL1MIM<br>JG1BGT(4)<br>JR2MCN(2) | JM1MKH<br>JF1LXO<br>JE1VQM<br>KE7LOY    | JJ0SFV(4)<br>R0LIQ<br>JA7KED<br>JH2URW    | JA4IJ(2)<br>JH0NFJ(2)<br>JF0IUN      |
| <b>JM4AOA</b> | HL1MIM<br>JF3WGG<br>JL2SQK                           | JA2VXZ<br>JG1UQD/4<br>JQ3FRX            | JA4IJ<br>JH0NFJ<br>JR4KSA             | JA5IVG<br>JH4UWD<br>JS2TGK                 | JA6PWF<br>JJ0SFV                        | JA9NLB<br>JK1WCW                          | JF1LXO<br>JL1ING                     |
| <b>JO1DGE</b> | HL1MIM<br>JE6TVQ<br>JK1MVC<br>JM1MKH(2)<br>JS2TGK(7) | JA2MEI<br>JF1JDG<br>JK1PWT<br>JN1FAO    | JA4IJ<br>JF1LXO<br>JK7UST<br>JN3CEL   | JA7EVF/1<br>JG1BGT(2)<br>JL1BSX<br>JN3HYM  | JA7KED<br>JH4UWD<br>JL1ING(2)<br>JQ3FRX | JE2WDJ<br>JH5SIK/3<br>JL2SQK<br>JQ3GAJ(2) | JE6AJO<br>JJ0SFV<br>JL7VFI<br>JR4KSA |
| <b>K7NJ</b>   | N9YJ<br>K9LWA                                        | KM7CIB<br>KQ4PXA                        | NC3S                                  | K4WLO                                      | WB2KMR                                  | W0BX                                      | VE7TL/M                              |
| <b>K8UDH</b>  | KO2N                                                 |                                         |                                       |                                            |                                         |                                           |                                      |
| <b>M0WDD</b>  | EA1CKO                                               | G8OLA                                   | M0IYP                                 | MM0WMA                                     | OE9MBI                                  | ON5CTK                                    | PA3BYW                               |
| <b>N9EEE</b>  | KA6DOY                                               | WP3PW                                   | N3HAM                                 |                                            |                                         |                                           |                                      |
| <b>W5DT</b>   | KD2KW                                                | KC3X                                    | WA3ZKI                                | WN3TIS                                     | KA8JX                                   | WB5CIT                                    |                                      |
| <b>W8OV</b>   | WA1QOF                                               | KA2KGP                                  | NZ0T                                  | W4USR                                      |                                         |                                           |                                      |
| <b>7L2VPL</b> | VK5GG<br>JA4IJ<br>JS2TGK<br>N8AI                     | VK3DPH<br>JS2TGK<br>JA2FWC<br>JS1CII    | JS2TGK<br>JM1MKH<br>N6EK<br>JJ0SFV    | JH5SIK/3<br>JR0KTF<br>JA7KED<br>K6ERA      | JM8QGN<br>JS2TGK<br>BI4JAD              | JH0NFJ<br>JH0NFJ<br>7N2LKT                | JR2BOE<br>JF0IUN<br>KE7LOY           |
| <b>7N2XZB</b> | JF2EVE<br>JA1UZQ<br>JS2TGK(3)<br>JR2MCN              | JO4OBS<br>JA4IJ<br>BG5FQU               | JL1DLT<br>JS2OVO<br>JJ0SFV            | JL3HUW<br>HL1MIM(3)<br>JA7KED              | JA4HQF<br>JQ3FRX<br>JQ3GAJ              | BG2HE<br>N6TI<br>JK1PWT                   | JK1MVC<br>JF1JDG<br>BG2XEL           |

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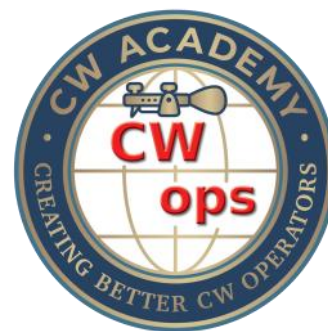
|               |                                         |                            |                               |                              |                            |                             |                            |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>7L2VPL</b> | JS2TGK<br>HL1MIM<br>HL5JZ               | JS1CII<br>JG1BGT<br>JA4IJ  | J17KNV<br>JJØSFV<br>JK1WCW    | J11CJJ<br>JS2TGK<br>JHØNFJ   | BH4HKZ<br>JG1BGT<br>JE1FMZ | UAØDF<br>JS2TGK<br>JF3TBK   | KA6BIM<br>BG25E            |
| <b>7N2XZB</b> | JQ6EQD<br>HL1MIM(2)<br>JA2MEI<br>JL1DZP | JJØXEQ<br>JF1LXO<br>JK1WCW | JS2TGK(5)<br>JJØSFV<br>JF3TBK | JA4IJ(3)<br>DS4OMS<br>JRØKTF | BG2HE<br>BI4JCR<br>JS3MQC  | JHØNFJ(3)<br>K8IA<br>BH5ELC | JR4CXE<br>JK1PWT<br>JA7MBT |

| Giving Back Operating Schedule - 7 PM Local                                     |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|---------|-------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| October - April: 40m & 80m   May - September: 40m & 20m                         |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| Frequencies: 7.035 - 7.039, 3.535 - 3.539, 14.035 - 14.039 MHz   JA - 7.028 +/- |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| UTC+10                                                                          | UTC+9            | UTC+7  | UTC+3 | UTC+2  | UTC+1 | UTC/BST | UTC-1 | New York<br>UTC-4 | Chicago<br>UTC-5 | Denver<br>UTC-6 | Los Angeles<br>UTC-7 | Hawaii<br>UTC-10 |
| <b>MON</b>                                                                      |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| VK1CWO                                                                          | JØ1DGE           |        |       |        |       |         |       | W2XS              | W8OV             |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | JG1GBT           |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| <b>TUE</b>                                                                      |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | 7N2XZB           | E25JRP |       | SV2BBK |       | GW2CWO  |       | WE5P              | K8UDH            | K7NJ            | W7ZDX                |                  |
|                                                                                 | JR1WYW           |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| <b>WED</b>                                                                      |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | 7J1ATG           |        |       |        |       |         |       | N8DD              |                  |                 | N7DZ                 |                  |
|                                                                                 |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| <b>THURS</b>                                                                    |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | 7N2XZB           |        |       | SV2BBK |       |         |       | KV8Q              | N9EEE            | K7NJ            |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | JG1BGT           |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | JQ3FRX           |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| <b>FRI</b>                                                                      |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | JK1QYL           |        |       | SV2BBK |       | GW2CWO  |       |                   |                  |                 | K6RB                 |                  |
|                                                                                 |                  |        |       |        |       | MØWDD   |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| <b>SAT</b>                                                                      |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | JJ1FXF           |        |       |        |       |         |       | W5DT              |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | JM4AOA<br>JG1UQD |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
| <b>SUN</b>                                                                      |                  |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | JJ1FXF           |        |       |        |       |         |       | W5DT              |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | JM4AOA           |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |
|                                                                                 | 7L1VPL           |        |       |        |       |         |       |                   |                  |                 |                      |                  |



# CW Academy

The CW Academy is humbled to have been acknowledged and honored with two prestigious awards, from RSGB and CWops.



## AWARD FOR ADVANCING THE ART OF CW

The 2026 Award for Advancing the Art of CW has been awarded to Bob Carter, WR7Q and Roland Smith, K7OJL of the CW Academy, a program of CWops.

Bob and Roland have been working together as a team administering the CW Academy (CWA) since January 2020. During the last 6-1/2 years, they greatly improved the efficiency of managing the CW Academy, making it easy for students and new advisors to join CWA, and in assigning students to advisors online. This was accomplished by developing proprietary online tools tailored to the CWA program, streamlining and replacing the manual approach that had been in place since its inception. This includes an Advisor portal, Student portal, and backend reporting.



**Bob, WR7Q (left) and Roland, K7OJL (right).**

**The award was presented by Riki, K7NJ (middle).**

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## THE CALCUTTA KEY

The Calcutta Key is one of the Radio Society of Great Britain's (RSGB) most distinguished awards, presented by the RSGB Board at its Annual General Meeting to individuals or organizations in recognition of outstanding contributions to amateur radio. It is given with particular emphasis on service that advances the amateur radio community and fosters international goodwill. Recipients represent the very highest standard of dedication to amateur radio and to the values the RSGB upholds.

This honor reflects the remarkable achievements of CW Academy's volunteer community — hundreds of dedicated advisors who have taught nearly 2,000 classes to more than 7,000 students worldwide. Their countless hours of selfless service have made an enduring impact on the art of Morse code and on the operators who practice it.



**L-R: Stewart Bryant, G3YSX (Board Chair, RSGB), Bob, WR7Q; Roland, K7OJL; , Bob Beebe GU4YOX (President, RSGB)**

# CWops Tests (CWTs)

[Rich Ferch](#), VE3KI

As of June 1, we are now up to 86 of this year's 210 CWT sessions. The only member who has reported scores in all of the CWTs so far this year is K4PQC.

In total, there have been 20,742 claimed CWT scores reported to 3830scores.com this year by 1,038 operators, with a total of 1,231,182 reported QSOs (of course, most QSOs were reported twice, so the actual total number of QSOs that took place is somewhat over half this number). The median score is 47 QSOs overall; by session, the median score at 1300z is 47, at 1900z it is 50, at 0300z it reaches 52, and at 0700z it is 28 QSOs, reflecting the much smaller participation at that time.

The most popular of the four CWT sessions continues to be the 1900z session, with an average of 356 participants in each 1900z CWT. The 1300z session is next with an average so far this year of 332 participants. The 0300z session is considerably less popular, with an average of 202 participants and decreasing, while the 0700z session has had an average participation so far this year of 85. There have not been any 0700z sessions with 100 reported scores or more yet this year; the last time this happened was in August 2025.

The 1300z and 1900z sessions are popular in both North America and Europe, with well over 200 participants from North America and an average of slightly under 100 from Europe in each one. The 1300z is the most popular session in Asia, coming as it does immediately after the A1CLUB's AWT each week. The highest QSO score in both of these sessions is almost always from either AA3B or K3WW, but we had something of a breakthrough in the 1900z session on May 13, with the highest QSO count (although not the highest total score) reported by Armin, DK9PY. Considering the predominance of North American participants, making the highest QSO total from Europe is quite an achievement. Well done, Armin!

The 0300Z session is heavily dominated by North Americans. Participation in this session is higher during the winter months, and drops off noticeably once Daylight Savings Time kicks in. At 0700z, on the other hand, we typically see 60-70 European participants, 15-20 from North America, and about half a dozen from Oceania, where this is the most popular of the four sessions. As propagation conditions continue to decline, we may not see much improvement in these numbers.

Enjoy the CWTs and keep those reported scores coming!

**73, Rich VE3KI** (CWops #783)  
CWT Manager





# CWops Member Awards

[Bill Gilliland](#), WØTG



## Monthly Update

During May, seven additional members submitted logs, increasing the number of active participants in the awards program to 208.

The **ACA** QSO totals and rankings for the end of May 2026 have **KR2Q** in first place and leading second place **AA3B** by 170 QSOs. The top ten ACA totals this month are: (1) **KR2Q**, (2) **AA3B**, (3) **KY4GS**, (4) **K3WW**, (5) **N5RZ**, (6) **KO4VW**, (7) **NA8V**, (8) **KC7V**, (9) **F6HKA** and (10) **KG9X**. The separation between first place and tenth place is 483 QSOs.

The **ACMA** QSO totals and rankings for the end of May 2026 have **AA3B** in first place and leading second place **KR2Q** by 428 QSOs. The top ten ACMA totals this month are: (1) **AA3B**, (2) **KR2Q**, (3) **K3WW**, (4) **N5RZ**, (5) **KY4GS**, (6) **KC7V**, (7) **NA8V**, (8) **OM2VL**, (9) **K7QA** and (10) **KO4VW**. The separation between first place and tenth place is 1613 QSOs.

The **CMA** QSO totals and rankings for the end of May 2026 have **AA3B** in first place and leading second place **K3WW** by 3599 QSOs. The top ten CMA totals this month are: (1) **AA3B**, (2) **K3WW**, (3) **KR2Q**, (4) **N5RZ**, (5) **N5ZO**, (6) **DL6KVA**, (7) **NA8V**, (8) **W1RM**, (9) **F6HKA** and (10) **OM2VL**. The separation between first place and tenth place is 6778 QSOs.

The number of participants who have contacted CWops members in 100 or more **DXCC** entities remained at 103 this month.

The number of participants who have accomplished CWops **WAS** remained at **291** this month.

You can see complete rankings for all award categories at <https://cwops.telegraphy.de/scores>.

## CWops Award Tools Participation

At the end of 2025 we had 297 active participants in the Member Awards Program. As of June 1, 2026, we have 208 active participants. If you have not submitted any logs for the Awards Program, please submit them so we can include your scores among the participants.

The Top 100 and the Searchable and Sortable Scores Table show rankings and scores for active participants only. To be an active participant and be included in awards scoring including the ACA, ACMA and CMA competitions, you must have submitted a log during the current year.

To see rankings and scores for both active and inactive participants please use the Score Overview Table where inactive participants are listed with ACA and ACMA scores of zero, but their scores in other categories are listed at the highest level that was previously submitted.

You can see the final 2025 scores or final scores for any other year by going to the Score Overview Table and selecting the desired year from the "Final scores:" list at the top of the page.

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All scores categories on the page will then show the final scores and standings for the end of the selected year.

The Searchable and Sortable Table can graph your current year's ACA scores by date and allows you to compare your progression to that of others. Check the Plot button for the calls you wish to see plotted and they will all appear on the same graph.

The CWops Award Tools website main page provides a means of printing your CWT Participation Certificate. You may request a downloadable certificate by clicking the "CWT certificate download" selection at the top of the page. For more information about CWT Participation Awards, please go to <https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/>.

### **CWops Member Awards Program Overview**

Several operating awards are available for contacting CWops members. These include **Annual Competition Award (ACA)** recognizing the total number of CWops members contacted during the current year, **Annual Cumulative Membership Award (ACMA)** counting QSOs with members on all bands (once per band) during the current year, **Cumulative Membership Award (CMA)** counting QSOs with members on all bands (once per band) since January 3, 2010, **CWops WAS** award for contacting members in all 50 states, **CWops DXCC** award for contacting members in countries on the ARRL DXCC list, **CWops WAE** award for contacting members in Europe, and **CWops WAZ** award for contacting members in each of the 40 CQ zones. All contacts must be via CW and between current CWops members. To qualify for these awards, you must submit your logs via the tool at the CWops Award Tools [website](#). You can also print out your awards certificates at that same website.

A set of tools for managing your awards status is provided on the CWops Award Tools website and if you regularly upload your logs your awards will be automatically tracked for you. To view complete data for all currently active participants and see where you and others rank among active participants in the awards program, use the [online tools](#). For more details on the tools provided, see the [August 2021 Solid Copy](#) article.

### **Please Join Us!**

Fabian, DJ5CW, who created the website and the tools, made it extremely easy to participate in the awards program.

If you are not among the CWops members who are currently participating, please join us! It adds a lot of friendly competition and fun to your operating.

### **More Information**

View our website for more information on the [CWops Awards Program](#). Send your feedback, questions or comments to [cwopscam@w0tg.com](mailto:cwopscam@w0tg.com).

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### Here are the Top 100 ACA, ACMA and CMA QSO totals as of June 1, 2026.

#### ACA

| Rank | Call   | ACA  |
|------|--------|------|
| 1    | KR2Q   | 1537 |
| 2    | AA3B   | 1367 |
| 3    | KY4GS  | 1283 |
| 4    | K3WW   | 1168 |
| 5    | N5RZ   | 1110 |
| 6    | KO4VW  | 1103 |
| 7    | NA8V   | 1075 |
| 8    | KC7V   | 1072 |
| 9    | F6HKA  | 1055 |
| 10   | KG9X   | 1054 |
| 11   | K7QA   | 1039 |
| 12   | WT9U   | 1036 |
| 13   | N7US   | 1035 |
| 14   | OM2VL  | 1034 |
| 15   | W4CMG  | 1000 |
| 16   | N5TJ   | 949  |
| 17   | K3QP   | 901  |
| 18   | NA4J   | 888  |
| 19   | K1AJ   | 876  |
| 20   | W8FN   | 872  |
| 21   | AA2IL  | 851  |
| 22   | EA6EJ  | 820  |
| 23   | K6NR   | 812  |
| 24   | DL6KVA | 803  |
| 25   | K9WX   | 802  |
| 26   | WS7L   | 777  |
| 27   | KW1X   | 773  |
| 28   | VK2GR  | 768  |
| 29   | N5KD   | 761  |
| 30   | VE3TM  | 755  |
| 30   | K1SM   | 755  |
| 31   | KM4FO  | 748  |
| 32   | KC3M   | 745  |
| 33   | K3JT   | 738  |
| 34   | NJ3K   | 737  |
| 34   | K1VUT  | 737  |
| 35   | KT5V   | 733  |
| 36   | WN7S   | 730  |
| 37   | W0UO   | 651  |
| 37   | N2UU   | 651  |
| 38   | K3ZA   | 649  |
| 39   | KW7Q   | 647  |
| 40   | W4WF   | 639  |

#### ACMA

| Rank | Call   | ACMA |
|------|--------|------|
| 1    | AA3B   | 4170 |
| 2    | KR2Q   | 3742 |
| 3    | K3WW   | 3254 |
| 4    | N5RZ   | 3063 |
| 5    | KY4GS  | 2977 |
| 6    | KC7V   | 2875 |
| 7    | NA8V   | 2702 |
| 8    | OM2VL  | 2693 |
| 9    | K7QA   | 2570 |
| 10   | KO4VW  | 2557 |
| 11   | WT9U   | 2479 |
| 12   | KG9X   | 2412 |
| 13   | N7US   | 2227 |
| 14   | F6HKA  | 2171 |
| 15   | W4CMG  | 2156 |
| 16   | N5TJ   | 2031 |
| 17   | K1AJ   | 1923 |
| 18   | NA4J   | 1848 |
| 19   | EA6EJ  | 1831 |
| 20   | DL6KVA | 1791 |
| 21   | WS7L   | 1728 |
| 22   | W8FN   | 1720 |
| 23   | K6NR   | 1672 |
| 24   | AA2IL  | 1638 |
| 25   | K1VUT  | 1556 |
| 26   | K9WX   | 1527 |
| 27   | KW7Q   | 1413 |
| 28   | KC3M   | 1385 |
| 29   | KM4FO  | 1376 |
| 30   | N2UU   | 1373 |
| 31   | N5XE   | 1368 |
| 32   | N5KD   | 1367 |
| 33   | K3QP   | 1331 |
| 34   | KW1X   | 1329 |
| 35   | WN7S   | 1321 |
| 36   | VK2GR  | 1315 |
| 37   | VE3TM  | 1285 |
| 38   | K3JT   | 1284 |
| 39   | W0UO   | 1266 |
| 40   | NJ3K   | 1242 |
| 41   | KT5V   | 1220 |
| 42   | K1SM   | 1219 |
| 43   | W0VX   | 1215 |

#### CMA

| Rank | Call   | CMA   |
|------|--------|-------|
| 1    | AA3B   | 15505 |
| 2    | K3WW   | 11906 |
| 3    | KR2Q   | 11059 |
| 4    | N5RZ   | 11046 |
| 5    | N5ZO   | 10698 |
| 6    | DL6KVA | 10550 |
| 7    | NA8V   | 10118 |
| 8    | W1RM   | 9691  |
| 9    | F6HKA  | 9614  |
| 10   | OM2VL  | 8727  |
| 11   | VE3KI  | 8407  |
| 12   | KG9X   | 8321  |
| 13   | KC7V   | 8308  |
| 14   | K7QA   | 8266  |
| 15   | N7US   | 8125  |
| 16   | W9ILY  | 7739  |
| 17   | N5AW   | 7732  |
| 18   | WT9U   | 7629  |
| 19   | KY4GS  | 7403  |
| 20   | K1VUT  | 7267  |
| 21   | W0VX   | 7201  |
| 22   | K3JT   | 7072  |
| 23   | N5TJ   | 6981  |
| 24   | K9WX   | 6925  |
| 25   | K6NR   | 6593  |
| 26   | W4WF   | 6525  |
| 27   | N1DC   | 6349  |
| 28   | SM6CUK | 6330  |
| 29   | WT3K   | 6299  |
| 30   | N2UU   | 6267  |
| 31   | WN7S   | 6191  |
| 32   | K4IU   | 6133  |
| 33   | KO4VW  | 6100  |
| 34   | W8FN   | 5958  |
| 35   | AA5JF  | 5818  |
| 36   | 9A1AA  | 5793  |
| 37   | VE3TM  | 5711  |
| 38   | W0UO   | 5662  |
| 39   | NJ3K   | 5603  |
| 40   | G4BUE  | 5571  |
| 41   | AC6ZM  | 5544  |
| 42   | K1SM   | 5534  |
| 43   | NA4J   | 5531  |

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### ACA

|    |        |     |
|----|--------|-----|
| 40 | F5SGI  | 639 |
| 41 | W9ILY  | 637 |
| 42 | N5XE   | 627 |
| 43 | KR3E   | 618 |
| 44 | K1TR   | 613 |
| 45 | W1RM   | 605 |
| 46 | SM6CUK | 599 |
| 47 | K4PQC  | 597 |
| 48 | DF7TV  | 595 |
| 49 | W5AL   | 589 |
| 50 | W9CF   | 581 |
| 51 | N1DC   | 579 |
| 52 | KC4WQ  | 574 |
| 53 | VE9KK  | 564 |
| 54 | EA3NO  | 563 |
| 55 | EA6BF  | 561 |
| 56 | WU6P   | 557 |
| 56 | NE2V   | 557 |
| 57 | K4IU   | 555 |
| 58 | K4TZ   | 554 |
| 59 | VE3KI  | 553 |
| 60 | W0VX   | 552 |
| 61 | VE3KI  | 551 |
| 62 | AA5JF  | 544 |
| 63 | W6AYC  | 527 |
| 63 | N5ER   | 527 |
| 64 | KV8Q   | 517 |
| 65 | N2EIM  | 509 |
| 66 | NE5A   | 505 |
| 67 | N3CKI  | 489 |
| 68 | ZS1C   | 486 |
| 69 | KK0U   | 476 |
| 70 | K4GM   | 472 |
| 71 | WA4JUK | 461 |
| 72 | WT3K   | 458 |
| 73 | KC9IL  | 450 |
| 74 | KB8GAE | 448 |
| 75 | M0RYB  | 441 |
| 75 | K9CW   | 441 |
| 76 | W2VM   | 437 |
| 76 | G3NKC  | 437 |
| 77 | W3WHK  | 424 |
| 78 | WE4AUB | 418 |
| 78 | HB9ARF | 418 |
| 79 | K1RF   | 415 |
| 80 | N5ZO   | 414 |
| 81 | W7LG   | 412 |
| 82 | WB2FKO | 410 |
| 83 | AF5J   | 402 |

### ACMA

|    |        |      |
|----|--------|------|
| 44 | SM6CUK | 1186 |
| 45 | W9CF   | 1170 |
| 46 | W5AL   | 1162 |
| 47 | F5SGI  | 1148 |
| 48 | K4PQC  | 1145 |
| 49 | EA6BF  | 1138 |
| 50 | W4WF   | 1124 |
| 51 | K3ZA   | 1103 |
| 52 | K1TR   | 1102 |
| 53 | K4IU   | 1093 |
| 54 | W9ILY  | 1087 |
| 55 | AA5JF  | 1007 |
| 56 | N5ER   | 1005 |
| 57 | WU6P   | 991  |
| 58 | VE3KI  | 973  |
| 59 | KC4WQ  | 965  |
| 60 | W6AYC  | 950  |
| 61 | VE3KI  | 946  |
| 62 | DF7TV  | 938  |
| 63 | ZS1C   | 937  |
| 64 | NE2V   | 932  |
| 65 | G3NKC  | 930  |
| 66 | VE9KK  | 927  |
| 67 | KR3E   | 926  |
| 68 | K4TZ   | 922  |
| 69 | W1RM   | 919  |
| 70 | N1DC   | 910  |
| 71 | EA3NO  | 904  |
| 72 | K9CW   | 868  |
| 73 | M0RYB  | 839  |
| 74 | W0TG   | 828  |
| 75 | KV8Q   | 821  |
| 76 | WS1L   | 817  |
| 77 | AF5J   | 796  |
| 78 | K4GM   | 785  |
| 79 | N3CKI  | 767  |
| 80 | DJ5CW  | 758  |
| 81 | K1RF   | 731  |
| 82 | KC3MAL | 727  |
| 83 | WB2FKO | 711  |
| 84 | LY2MM  | 710  |
| 85 | WA5RML | 707  |
| 86 | W3WHK  | 698  |
| 87 | NE5A   | 676  |
| 88 | WE4AUB | 665  |
| 89 | KK0U   | 663  |
| 90 | WM4Q   | 659  |
| 91 | W2VM   | 658  |
| 92 | WT3K   | 644  |

### CMA

|    |        |      |
|----|--------|------|
| 44 | K1AJ   | 5438 |
| 45 | N5XE   | 5417 |
| 46 | AA2IL  | 5393 |
| 47 | GW0ETF | 5332 |
| 48 | WS7L   | 5103 |
| 49 | KT5V   | 5038 |
| 50 | VK2GR  | 5026 |
| 51 | K3QP   | 5015 |
| 52 | F6JOE  | 4997 |
| 53 | WA4JUK | 4946 |
| 54 | K4GM   | 4880 |
| 55 | DM6EE  | 4868 |
| 56 | DF7TV  | 4853 |
| 57 | W4CMG  | 4832 |
| 58 | EA6BF  | 4798 |
| 59 | OK1RR  | 4790 |
| 60 | KC4WQ  | 4667 |
| 61 | VE3MV  | 4618 |
| 62 | DJ5CW  | 4608 |
| 63 | OZ3SM  | 4600 |
| 64 | KM4FO  | 4585 |
| 65 | N5KD   | 4540 |
| 66 | W6AYC  | 4517 |
| 67 | F5SGI  | 4470 |
| 68 | WS1L   | 4264 |
| 69 | KW7Q   | 4257 |
| 70 | W0TG   | 4254 |
| 71 | WU6P   | 4214 |
| 72 | EA6EJ  | 4208 |
| 73 | G4PVM  | 4190 |
| 74 | AF5J   | 4163 |
| 75 | K0TC   | 4124 |
| 76 | KV8Q   | 4119 |
| 77 | NE2V   | 4075 |
| 78 | KK0U   | 4069 |
| 79 | W3WHK  | 4063 |
| 79 | NE5A   | 4063 |
| 80 | W2CDO  | 4055 |
| 81 | N1EN   | 4034 |
| 82 | M0RYB  | 4011 |
| 83 | KR3E   | 3952 |
| 84 | KC3M   | 3847 |
| 85 | SM0HEV | 3796 |
| 86 | N3CKI  | 3777 |
| 87 | K4TZ   | 3743 |
| 88 | HB9ARF | 3700 |
| 89 | K3ZA   | 3664 |
| 90 | KW1X   | 3583 |
| 91 | K2YR   | 3440 |

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### ACA

|     |        |     |
|-----|--------|-----|
| 84  | KC3MAL | 394 |
| 85  | LY2MM  | 393 |
| 86  | W0TG   | 389 |
| 87  | KE4CR  | 388 |
| 88  | DJ5CW  | 383 |
| 89  | KM4JEG | 380 |
| 90  | WM4Q   | 377 |
| 91  | SP4JFR | 376 |
| 91  | GW0ETF | 376 |
| 92  | W2CDO  | 375 |
| 93  | WA5RML | 372 |
| 93  | K8XCO  | 372 |
| 94  | SM0HEV | 361 |
| 95  | AC3RA  | 356 |
| 96  | OZ3SM  | 355 |
| 97  | WS1L   | 352 |
| 97  | W8EWH  | 352 |
| 98  | SP7OGP | 351 |
| 99  | WA5PFJ | 347 |
| 100 | K9CPO  | 339 |
| 100 | K0RX   | 339 |

### ACMA

|     |        |     |
|-----|--------|-----|
| 93  | WA4JUK | 643 |
| 94  | W7LG   | 636 |
| 95  | SP4JFR | 635 |
| 95  | SP7OGP | 635 |
| 96  | PA2TA  | 633 |
| 97  | N5ZO   | 632 |
| 98  | SM0HEV | 627 |
| 99  | HB9ARF | 614 |
| 100 | KM4JEG | 608 |

### CMA

|     |        |      |
|-----|--------|------|
| 92  | G3NKC  | 3381 |
| 92  | 4X6GP  | 3381 |
| 93  | G3LDI  | 3358 |
| 94  | W5AL   | 3292 |
| 95  | W9CF   | 3278 |
| 96  | IT9VDQ | 3265 |
| 97  | W2VM   | 3237 |
| 98  | W8OV   | 3226 |
| 99  | ZS1C   | 3172 |
| 100 | W7GF   | 3167 |

**73, Bill W0TG** (CWops #1873)  
CWops Operating Awards

## XXT Schedule

| SPEED    | XST | DAY       | TIME (UTC)   | EXCHANGE                  | SPONSOR LINK                           |
|----------|-----|-----------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 20 - 25  | MST | Monday    | 1300 - 1400z | Name + QSO serial number  | <a href="#">International CW Coun-</a> |
| 20 - 25  | MST | Monday    | 1900 - 2000z | Name + QSO serial number  | <a href="#">International CW Coun-</a> |
| 20 - 25  | MST | Tuesday   | 0300 - 0400z | Name + QSO serial number  | <a href="#">International CW Coun-</a> |
| QRS      | AWT | Wednesday | 1145 - 1200z | RST + Name                | <a href="#">A1Club</a>                 |
| 20+ wpm  | AWT | Wednesday | 1200 - 1300z | RST + Name                | <a href="#">A1Club</a>                 |
| 25+ wpm  | CWT | Wednesday | 1300 - 1400z | Name + CWops # (or S/P/C) | <a href="#">CWops</a>                  |
| 25+ wpm  | CWT | Wednesday | 1900 - 2000z | Name + CWops # (or S/P/C) | <a href="#">CWops</a>                  |
| 25+ wpm  | CWT | Thursday  | 0300 - 0400z | Name + CWops # (or S/P/C) | <a href="#">CWops</a>                  |
| 25+ wpm  | CWT | Thursday  | 0700 - 0800z | Name + CWops # (or S/P/C) | <a href="#">CWops</a>                  |
| < 20 wpm | SST | Friday    | 2000 - 2100z | Name + S/P/C              | <a href="#">K1USN</a>                  |
| < 20 wpm | SST | Monday    | 0000 - 0100z | Name + S/P/C              | <a href="#">K1USN</a>                  |



# QTX: Enjoying the Art of Conversational CW

[Dan Romanchik](#), KB6NU

Face-to-Face Ragchews are Fun, Too

I live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, which, fortunately for me, is only a 3-1/2 hour drive to Dayton, Ohio. This makes it very easy for me to attend the Dayton Hamvention, and I've attended every year for the past 20 years. This year, I drove down on Wednesday, May 13 and returned on Sunday, May 17, making it nearly a week of non-stop ham radio for me.



*Dan, KB6NU; Howard, W1HRB; and Barbara.*

On the way down, I did a couple of POTA activations, and Thursday afternoon a third, but no ragchews for me for those five days. What I did manage, though, were many face-to-face ragchews. At the CWops dinner, for example, I met and chatted with Steve, KJ5T, and Howard, W1HRB, and his wife Barbara. On Friday evening, I had dinner with Eric, N4IE, and Tom, N4LSJ, among others.

It was these “ragchews” and more that made this year’s Hamvention special for me. I didn’t buy a single thing this year, but returned home with something even better than a new rig or antenna—new and stronger friendships. And, isn’t that what ragchewing is all about?

**73, Dan KB6NU** (CWops #1418)



**AAØYY:** I had the pleasure of working 4 CWA students this month. K7MSO, NØQLR, K3AV, and VE7CTE. That's a red letter month if you ask me. TNX guys.

**AA3TZ:** I've been putting more effort into CWTs and SOTA/POTA lately. It was nice to get back on the horse for a couple ragchews this month!

**AJ1DM:** This was a great month for QTX - lots of conversations with lots of friends. Thanks for all the ragchews!

**GWØETF:** A thin month with not much air time..

**K8UDH:** This month I had a nice ragchew QSO with a ham who shared many of the same interests as me, in addition to ham radio. What a great CW conversation .

**KF9VV:** Was out camping much of May. Things were not as productive at 10 Watts as some other months. Wrapping up a remote station implementation, high hopes for a stronger June.

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**KG5IEE:** Lower number of QTX this month but good quality. Nice chat with Jim KF9VV who had chicken marinating while he got his CW fix. Mark KFØTXA licensed in 2025 and just upgraded to General last month. Nice fist.

**KW4NJA:** Not as much time on the air this month as I would have liked, but some fun ragchews none the less. Hope to get more in my log in June.

**N2DA:** Had a very nice 78 minute straight key QSO with Mary VE3INE; it was her 96th Marathon QSO toward the SKCC Award. Many FB sked QSOs last month as well!

**N8AI:** SM3EVR, Tord, said in May QTX that he had me in his log from 1995 when I was in Oman as A45XC!

**N9FZ:** Some good chats. Had a nice QSO with the new Flex 6600m with KO4VTJ who's getting back into CW.

**VE3INE:** My longest QSO this month is a 94-minute QSO with Sam VE3WH.

**VE3WH:** The mature ops reminded me again this month how rich a ragchew can be. If you've been thinking about stretching beyond the quick exchanges, come join the conversation. There's something special about the ops who still take the time to settle in and share a slice of life on the key. If you're curious about conversational CW, you'll find no better teachers than the ones who've been doing it for decades.

**WA4IAR:** Made a little more time for radio this month. Had 3 QSOs over 45 minutes.

**WG9P:** I spent many of my on-the-air hours prototyping a new home-brew CW receiver that I hope to have up and running in June. I also restored a Blue Racer for my friend Jeff, KA9S.

**WS1L:** Nice chats with Steven, MMØDGI about the long days in the far northern latitudes, with NI4E, K1AJ and N4LSJ about Dayton Hamvention.



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### QTX - May 2026

| <u>Call</u> | <u>QTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>QTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>QTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>QTX</u> |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| VE3INE      | 104        | KB6NU       | 27         | KF9VV       | 15         | K8WWS       | 4          |
| WA4IAR      | 57         | KY4GS       | 24         | WS1L        | 15         | AE4GS       | 3          |
| K9OZ        | 34         | WG9P        | 23         | KG5IEE      | 11         | N5LB        | 3          |
| N7HCN       | 34         | AAØYY       | 20         | G4KKU       | 10         | ABØWW       | 2          |
| N8AI        | 34         | N2DA        | 17         | K8UDH       | 7          | K6DGW       | 2          |
| VE3WH       | 31         | AJ1DM       | 16         | N9EEE       | 6          | KN5EE       | 2          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | KW4NJA      | 2          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | AA3TZ       | 1          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | W3WHK       | 1          |

### mQTX - May 2026

| <u>Call</u> | <u>mQTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>mQTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>mQTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>mQTX</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| KY4GS       | 40          | KB6NU       | 15          | K6DGW       | 6           | N9FZ        | 4           |
| AAØYY       | 34          | VE3WH       | 14          | KW4NJA      | 6           | W8OV        | 4           |
| N8AI        | 32          | KG5IEE      | 13          | N9EEE       | 6           | GWØETF      | 3           |
| WA4IAR      | 30          | G4KKU       | 8           | AJ1DM       | 5           | AA3TZ       | 1           |
| WS1L        | 18          | KF9VV       | 8           | VE3INE      | 5           | ABØWW       | 1           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | K8UDH       | 1           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | KM4JEG      | 1           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | W3WHK       | 1           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | WG9P        | 1           |

### QTX - Total 2026

| <u>Call</u> | <u>QTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>QTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>QTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>QTX</u> |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| VE3INE      | 583        | VE3WH       | 111        | G4KKU       | 48         | N9FZ        | 12         |
| AAØYY       | 254        | K9OZ        | 93         | KN5EE       | 33         | AA3TZ       | 11         |
| N7HCN       | 229        | KF9VV       | 78         | K8UDH       | 29         | DG5CW       | 8          |
| WA4IAR      | 193        | KG5IEE      | 72         | AE4GS       | 25         | KW4NJA      | 8          |
| N8AI        | 174        | N2DA        | 63         | ABØWW       | 19         | N3JT        | 8          |
| WG9P        | 170        | KR2Q        | 62         | K8WWS       | 18         | K6DGW       | 7          |
| KB6NU       | 135        | KCØVKN      | 58         | K2MZ        | 16         | DK9HE       | 6          |
| KY4GS       | 120        | W1SIM       | 54         | N9EEE       | 16         | N5LB        | 6          |
| WS1L        | 119        | AJ1DM       | 49         | W8OV        | 15         | G3EEC       | 3          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | W3WHK       | 3          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | WB3EGD      | 3          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | GWØETF      | 2          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | NØBM        | 2          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | WE5J        | 2          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | KE7IR       | 1          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | KM4JEG      | 1          |
|             |            |             |            |             |            | SV2BBK      | 1          |

### mQTX - Total 2026

| <u>Call</u> | <u>mQTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>mQTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>mQTX</u> | <u>Call</u> | <u>mQTX</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| KY4GS       | 220         | KG5IEE      | 72          | G3EEC       | 17          | N3JT        | 10          |
| AAØYY       | 193         | GWØETF      | 48          | AJ1DM       | 16          | N7HCN       | 10          |
| WS1L        | 146         | VE3WH       | 45          | KW4NJA      | 16          | SV2BBK      | 10          |
| N8AI        | 143         | G4KKU       | 44          | N9EEE       | 15          | K2MZ        | 9           |
| KB6NU       | 82          | VE3INE      | 26          | ABØWW       | 13          | K8UDH       | 9           |
| KCØVKN      | 82          | N9FZ        | 24          | K6DGW       | 13          | AA3TZ       | 5           |
| WA4IAR      | 82          | WG9P        | 23          | W8OV        | 13          | KM4JEG      | 5           |
| KR2Q        | 78          | KB4DE       | 22          | WE5J        | 11          | NØBM        | 5           |
| KF9VV       | 72          | DG5CW       | 19          | AE4GS       | 10          | KE7IR       | 4           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | DK9HE       | 2           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | K8WWS       | 2           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | PE2V        | 1           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | W1SIM       | 1           |
|             |             |             |             |             |             | W3WHK       | 1           |





# My Story: New Member Introductions

Compiled by [Tim Gennett, K9WX](#) (CWops #1462)

## Kiersten “Kiki” Gracey, K1KIG CWops #3934

Hi everyone! I'm thrilled to join CWops. My ham radio journey started on December 1st, 2023, after my husband, (N7UFO), finally persuaded me to take the leap. I ended up passing both my Technician and General exams on the same night—and I'm so glad I did, because HF is absolutely where it's at! My husband has been an incredible mentor, teaching me almost everything I know, and now we love sharing this hobby together. I kept the momentum going and upgraded to my Extra license in July of 2025. It's truly becoming a family affair, as our 13-year-old son (when he was 12) passed his Technician exam, is currently learning CW, and is now almost ready for his General!

When I'm not on the air, I am semi-retired after owning my own hair salon and working as a stylist for over 20 years. My family and I love the outdoors—whether we are out in my 2015 Jeep Wrangler, riding my 2006 Harley Sportster, or spending time on the water in our MasterCraft ski boat, kayaking, fishing, or camping. I also love music and play several instruments, play adult co-ed softball, and enjoy collecting, oil lamps, and (naturally) Morse code keys!

On the technical side of the hobby, I really enjoy soldering and building gear. I've already built a QMX and a homebrew 20 m dipole, and I'm eager to learn even more about radio building and antenna design.

I'm incredibly grateful for the warm welcome to the club and look forward to catching you all down the log!



## Lorilyn Roberts, KO4LBS CWops # 3936

I'm probably the most unlikely person on the planet to become a ham radio operator. I don't have an electrical or engineering background, nor am I even inclined that way.

So, how did I get into ham radio? I'm a prepper and a communicator. Besides writing books, I'm a former court reporter, and I've spent the last 25 years providing closed captioning for television. I also play guitar and piano.

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During COVID, my brother-in-law, who is also a prepper, sent me a link to a Baofeng on Amazon and said I needed to get one. So, I did. It arrived in the mail, I opened it, and asked, "What do I do with this thing?" And then, when I read the instructions, it said I needed a license. "Where do I get one of those?" I was clueless.

That was the beginning of my journey into ham radio.

Within six months, I had my Extra license. When I aced the test, one of the VEs said, "Your name was familiar to me. When you surveyed the room for us to make sure you had no 'cheat sheets' and said all those books on the bookshelf were yours, I checked my Kindle. Guess what? I have some of your books on my Kindle."

Talk about a day I will never forget!

Soon, I joined the local ARES group and discovered, to my surprise, that no one was doing CW. No one even knew Morse code except one operator, and he was more focused on digital and other ham radio needs.

Morse code sounded like fun, and so I searched online for resources and came across LICW and LCWO and then spent the next two months learning all the letters and numbers. Last fall, I took an online course with CWops. Joe Spencer, KK5NA, was the instructor, and it was just what I needed. Then I discovered Bill Lynch, K8WWS. Every week we have a ragchew and transmit Bible verses in CW we've given each other to improve our skills. That helped me refine my sending and receiving, and after a couple of months, he asked if he could nominate me to CWops.

I am thankful for all the encouragement I have received from LICW and CWops, and I want to thank Kevin Sulonen, N7KV, who was in my CWops class, Scott Wooten, KW4NJA, and Joe Spencer, KK5NA, for their sponsorships.

My hope is to get more young people and women into ham radio, especially CW. I taught CW at a local school to some middle schoolers for two years and had a blast. My latest book for young adults, Eighth Dimension – Frequency, has a lot of ham radio/CW in the plot. I am currently working on book two, Counterfeit, in the trilogy.

I have two grown daughters and am still adjusting to being an empty nester. I am also a nine-year breast cancer survivor, praise the Lord, and provide closed captioning for television on CBS Sports and Fox News. Everyone else seems to have gone with AI captioning, but don't tell those cost-cutting stations that I said AI captions are inferior.

As a prepper, I think CW is superior to other forms of communication in an emergency. Because I live in hurricane country, Florida, I am thankful to be part of a community of like-minded individ-



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uals who strive to help each other and serve. CW has given me the ability to contribute in a way that was needed and appreciated at the local level here in Gainesville.

I am also thankful for the opportunity to be a CWops member with hams around the world who share my passion for CW. There is nothing like hearing those dits and dahs over the airwaves and wondering, "Where is that message coming from?" I will stop and listen, and oftentimes even look up the call sign. And once again, I'll be amazed at how that CW signal could reach the tiny wire dangling from a tree in my yard. You never know who you will meet, and that makes each day on the air a new adventure in CW.

### **Tim Rife, KK9T, CWops #3939**

When I was around 12 or 13 years old and at a friend's house, I watched his father working "skip" on his CB radio using an amp with a single big, glowing 3-500Z tube. I was mesmerized and at once bitten by the bug.

My father knew a ham operator at work and introduced me to him. He gave me some pointers and said when I was ready, he would arrange to administer the Novice exam. Sadly, I don't remember his call. If memory serves, I believe I used a Heathkit study manual in a 3-ring binder complete with Morse code cassette tapes and an old ARRL license manual in the red and black soft cover format to prepare for the Novice exam. I had also assembled a Heathkit code practice oscillator and got a straight key and spent quite a bit of time learning to send. I did pass the Novice exam on the first try in my mid-teens and, little did I know at the time, entered into what would become a lifelong passion that shaped much of my personal and professional life.



After receiving the new Novice license, I put together a Heathkit HW-8 and used my old straight key, which I think was a generic stamped key made by Ameco, to get on the air. It took a bit to get the radio together and on the air as I did not really have any help and I was a teenager essentially teaching myself everything. But I did manage to have my first QSO on that HW-8 with about 20 feet of wire just plugged in loosely to the antenna connector and strung out across the floor. I was thrilled to talk to a nice lady in Florida on CW from my parents' house in Indiana running a couple watts to a random wire. I did make some QSOs with that HW-8, but, with a series of poor antennas and lack of knowledge, it was an uphill battle.

Fast forward a little bit, but still as a teenager. My father was a huge gardener with nearly an acre and a half of vegetable garden. Though, at the time, it seemed like torture for a teen to have to spend so many hours working in the garden, it did teach me a few things about life, and I was able to earn some money selling garden produce. Enough that, with some help from my parents,

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we went to Indianapolis, where there was ham radio store, and purchased a brand new Kenwood TS-520SE as a teenager in high school. I ended up keeping that radio for many, many years and had thousands of QSOs on it.

Money was tight in the late 1970s, but CB Radio was relatively inexpensive and everywhere back then. I could not really afford much of an antenna. But I knew I needed something better than a wire laying on the floor. Somewhere, I found plans to modify a 3 element CB Yagi to a 2-element 15 m Yagi. It really only needed a couple of pieces of copper tubing to be used to splice together the parts that came with the Yagi, just in a different way. So, I ended up with a relatively cheap 2 element 15 m Yagi that I mounted on a galvanized water pipe stuck into the ground and lashed to the house just outside my bedroom/hamshack. It was all of maybe 10 feet off the ground. For a rotator, I used one of those red wrenches that are used by plumbers. So, if I needed to rotate the antenna, I would run outside with the wrench and eyeball an approximate azimuth, crank the antenna around and run back in and do some more radio. In those days, 15 m was open long into the night. I spent hours and hours in front of that radio working Europe, South America and Oceania. It was really my only band, but, with that monster sunspot cycle back then, it was all I needed.

This passion for the magic of radio led to getting a BSEE and MSEE and to a career in electrical engineering. After college, it took a little bit, but I finally found my professional jam with the birth of wireless phones and that is where I spent the majority of my career, engineering and building the wireless infrastructure that is so ubiquitous and essential today. Those were busy years with the many demands of an ever more successful career that often kept me away from home and also raising a family all while trying to maintain touch with my ham radio roots. Though there were years when life got in the way and there was not much radio going on, I always returned.

CW, since my Novice days, has been one of my favorite modes. Even though I had passed the 20 wpm Extra class exam many years ago, I had become rusty from lack of use in those years where career and family came first. So, since the kids are all now out on their own and I am now retired, I decided that I was going to fix that. I have spent a good part of the last year and a half reacquiring CW skills, taking classes, working the SST, MST and CWT and getting better every week. I am a very competitive person by nature so these weekly mini contests and working to get faster and faster is right up my alley.

I want to thank Randy Ebers (WAØI) for nominating me for CWops membership and also thank you to the folks who sponsored me. I am proud and privileged to become a member of this outstanding organization that works to preserve and protect the art and history of CW as well as train and educate its future stewards.

### **Reinhard "Red" Frenzel, DL1BUG CWops #3938**

Profession: Master Locksmith, retired.

Licensed since 1978. First call DM4VMG, Y39ZE, Y23UE, since 1994 DL1BUG. Preferences: CW Contesting, DXing. Other memberships: FOC, HSC, VHSC, AGCW, Bavarian Contest Club, GDXF.

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Other Callsigns: TY5FR

Former DXpeditions: Holyday activity from SM and 9A; member of the 4W8X Team November 2023; Regular activities from Benin 2025 and 2026 as TY5FR. Member of the German national team at the IARU HST Championships in 2008, 2010, 2011, 2017, 2018 and 2022.

Contest OP: DFØHQ, DM2X

Home station: TS 990, OM2500A. Antennas: 160m Inv-L, 80 M Pyramide, 40/30 M rotary dipole, 20-10 M OB9-5 Optibeam. Expedition station: IC7300, G5RV 2x15 M

Other interests: My family, fishing, mechanical tinkering.



### **Hauke Hoymann, DJ7EC CWops #3943**

First of all, a big thank you to my sponsors DJ5CW, DL5JQ, HB9AJY, and S53R. It is an honor for me to be a member of CWops.

I am 40 years old and have been officially licensed since the year 2000. Back then, I started out with the Novice class license under the callsign DO3JV. The full HF license followed in 2004. I basically grew up with amateur radio, as my father has been licensed since the 1970s (DL1EA). Even as a child, I spent a lot of time in my father's shack listening to the shortwave bands. At age 11, I started with CB radio, and by 14, I made the switch to amateur radio. In 2002, I took a CW course taught by Matthias, DF2OF, at our local amateur radio club. Since then, I have been QRV almost exclusively in CW. My main interests in amateur radio are contesting, HF DXing, and CW ragchewing. I only run a small station consisting of a Yaesu FTdx-10 and a 2x9.5m doublet antenna.

I am married and the proud father of a son. Professionally, I work as a nurse. I specialize in forensic psychiatry, which means I work with offenders struggling with drug addiction in a prison-like hospital environment.

When time permits alongside work and family life, my other hobbies include football (soccer), the local history of my hometown, and cycling. I also live a vegan lifestyle and enjoy trying out new vegan cooking recipes. CU on the air!



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### **Chloe Barker, M0GEJ CWops # 3932**

I first got interested in radio as a teenager after watching the film "Contact" with my cousin. He helped me find a training course in my area and I gained my first callsign 2E1IDT at the age of 15. I first started learning CW whilst at university as it seemed much more fun than writing my dissertation. A little shy to use it much on the air I finally decided to work on that in 2025 after being recommended the CWA by a member of my local club, Andy G4KKU. I started off on the Intermediate course with Josep EA6BF and later with Buzz AC6AC, both of whom were very helpful.

I have a 100w K2 in my home shack, but my preference is to work QRP which has led me to try and get more involved in the SOTA and POTA programmes when time allows. Eventually I would like to get more involved in building a bit more of my own radio gear.

Outside of radio I work as an engineer in the maritime sector. I enjoy working on my fitness and am returning to cycling after an injury and subsequent necessary modifications to my biking setup. Boat maintenance and house restoration seem to occupy most of the rest of my time.

I hope to work some of you on the air soon!





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